

Fears that Jewish passengers may have been taken from plane

Passengers appeal to Reagan against the use of force

● Hostages on the hijacked TWA jet pleaded with President Reagan not to use force after he warned the hijackers to free them "for their own safety".

● US officials have refused all comment on reports that a crack commando unit is in the Mediterranean ready to storm the jet.

● The White House said up to 10 Americans were taken from the jet on Friday to an undisclosed location. A sick passenger was freed yesterday.

● Israel imposed a total news blackout on official comment about its response to the hijackers' demand that it free more than 700 Shia prisoners.

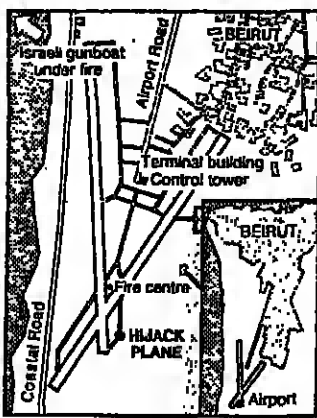
From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Twenty-nine American hostages held aboard the hijacked Trans World jetliner at Beirut airport last night appealed to President Reagan to meet the hijackers' demands and "refrain from any military action" after a warning from the American President that the Lebanese gunmen on the plane should release the passengers "for their own safety".

Their appeal, brought to the airport terminal building by an official of the Lebanese Shia Muslim "Amal" militia, came at the end of an ominous and dramatic day which began with reports that up to 12 passengers with Jewish names may have been taken secretly from the airport when it landed in Beirut early on Saturday morning. It ended with Shia Muslim militiamen a few hundred yards from the plane firing hundreds of anti-aircraft cannon shells at an Israeli missile boat sailing along the Mediterranean shoreline.

Beirut airport lies next to the Mediterranean and while negotiations dragged on in Beirut, the American guided-missile destroyer USS Kidd put to sea from the Israeli port of Haifa a week ahead of schedule, heading north towards Lebanon. The vessel was reported to be cruising off the coast after dusk.

As night fell at the airport, one of the hijackers ordered the aircraft to turn on all its floodlights for fear of an attempted rescue operation. At the same time, releasing a sick passenger from the plane. (The passenger, who said his name was Bob Pear, was taken to hospital).



The deepest concern was expressed privately by Western embassy officials in Beirut after the reports that passengers with Jewish names had been taken from the hijacked jet here early on Saturday.

Suspicions that this may be at least partly true grew when the list of passengers who signed the appeal to Mr Reagan was found to contain the names of only 29 men when the full passenger complement was supposed to be 43. However, several names on the list appeared to be Jewish.

Indeed, the hijackers have no lack of friends at Beirut airport. When the plane first landed here yesterday afternoon, three men in blue trousers calmly walked up to the aircraft from a group of trees beside the runway and began talking to one of the hijackers through a cockpit window.

Indeed, there now appear to be four hijackers aboard the jet - as opposed to two on Friday - and one report suggested that as many as four gunmen boarded the aircraft in Beirut yesterday.

The gunman certainly acquired more weapons here, believed to be a number of automatic rifles and more hand-grenades. Indeed, the scene around the runways yesterday showed only too clearly why Beirut is any hijacker's favourite airport, where the soldiers who might storm the plane are smiling co-religionists, there the control tower negotiators speak from impotence, where even the local Muslim militia maintains an airport office for the convenience of its gunmen.

In fact, the airport was swarming with armed men yesterday, some of them members of "Amal", others gunmen from the Druze Progressive Socialist Party. They were on the runways, in the departure lounges and crowded into the control tower, all eyes fixed on the red and white jet shimmering in the heat haze on the tarmac.

Certainly, there was much movement outside the darkened plane during its early morning refuelling stop here on Saturday and it would have been easy to remove passengers under cover of dark and to imprison them in the square, single-storey airport fire department building a hundred yards away.

Yesterday several heavily-armed men in camouflage uniforms could be seen guarding the front entrance of this building while a series of battered cars carried militia officials to and from the tarmac.



Miss Hazel Hesp and Mrs Elizabeth Howes, the British air hostesses released by the hijackers, at Heathrow yesterday before leaving for the United States.

President takes charge of crisis

From Michael Binyon, Washington



Ali Atwa, aged 21, the accomplice of the hijackers, after his release by Greek authorities in exchange for the freeing of some of the hostages.

President Reagan, cutting short his weekend at his Camp David mountain retreat, returned to the White House yesterday to keep in close touch with the hijacking crisis. Throughout the weekend he was kept abreast of developments by Mr Robert McFarlane, his National Security Adviser.

The President said he had been in touch with the governments of Israel and Lebanon. He is also understood to have sent messages to President Chadi Benjedid of Algeria and President Hafez al-Assad of Syria. He refused to comment on the possibility of use of force, but said that for their own safety the hijackers should turn their captives loose. He referred pointedly to the fate of past hijackers who have been killed when the planes were stormed.

Asked whether Israel should free more than 700 Shia prisoners, he said it was a decision for the Israelis to make. "It is not so simple as just trading prisoners. At what point can you pay off the terrorists without endangering people from here on once they find their tactics succeed", the President asked.

American efforts have centred on intensive diplomatic consultations with Algeria, Israel, the Red Cross and other intermediaries. The State Department has set up a special hijack crisis centre, and Mr George Shultz, the Secretary of State, cancelled a visit to Chicago so as to remain in close touch. He spent most of Saturday in close consultations with Mr Muhammad Sahnoun, the Algerian Ambassador here.

The crisis has dominated the news over the past three days, and there has been mounting public anger, concern and frustration at the terrifying ordeal of the passengers and crew of the TWA airliner.

There is particular concern here at the fate of between six and 10 passengers with Jewish-sounding names who are, according to the White House, among about 12 taken off the plane during its second stop in Beirut by accomplices of the hijackers.

The State Department is urgently trying to trace their whereabouts, but the few members of the skeleton United States Embassy staff in Beirut have not been able to get to the scene because of the danger crossing the city.

The US Embassy has also not

Continued on page 5, col 1

Thatcher 'firm' on cutting taxes

By Anthony Bevins
Political Correspondent

Tax cuts, financed by public spending savings, remain the Government's main priority, one of the Prime Minister's closest Cabinet allies said yesterday.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, said on Channel 4's *Face the Press* programme. "Britain remains one of the highest taxed nations, and I believe this is one of the main reasons why we have so few jobs."

With ministers preparing for a long-term strategy meeting on public spending, to be held at Chequers on Sunday, speculation was increasing that ministers were set for a battle to defend their departmental interests.

One report even suggested that Mr Norman Tebbit, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and the man tipped to become party chairman in the autumn reshuffle, would be arguing against spending and tax cuts. That notion was firmly dismissed by 10 Downing Street and Whitehall sources last night. One source said: "That is untrue."

It was also emphasized that the Chequers meeting should not be confused with the current round of public spending bids for the next financial year, which are due to be discussed by the Cabinet next month.

With inflation at 7 per cent, public sector pay deals higher than expected, nationalized industries speeding higher than forecast, and the possibility of North Sea oil revenues sliding, it is acknowledged in Whitehall that the Treasury has a difficult task maintaining its medium-term spending targets, in spite of high-level contingency reserves which have been set aside for the unexpected.

But the steadfast determination of Mrs Margaret Thatcher and her Cabinet allies to pursue public expenditure restraint was indicated by Mr Ridley.

He said that it was "no-sense" that people on the lowest incomes should have to pay taxes to provide state pensions and supplementary benefits for people who were once better off than those paying tax.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer had tried to help, but because of the numbers of people involved it would be immensely expensive. "So in order to put it right and take the tax burden off the lowest paid, we must have less spending," Mr Ridley said.

"I am trying to save the Chancellor money so that he can apply it to the Government's main priority, which is to cut taxes at the lowest end of the scale so that more people can price themselves back into jobs."

THE TIMES 1785-1985

Tomorrow

Still adrift
The plight of the Vietnamese boat people
Heavy petal
A midsummer riot of flower fashion
Ambridge footlights
The Archers' wellies tread the boards in Berkshire
Centre courtiers
Rex Bellamy on the seedling for Wimbledon

Portfolio

The £20,000 weekly prize to The Times Portfolio competition was shared by two readers, Mr Brian Stanstell, of New Bradwell, Milton Keynes, Bucks, and Mr Robin Garrett, of Surbiton, Surrey.

There was no winner in the daily competition, so today's prize is doubled to £4,000. Portfolio list, page 16, rules and how to play, information service, back page.

Campaign to cut energy bill

Every home and workplace in Britain is to be directly involved in an important government-run energy efficiency campaign next year aimed at cutting the nation's annual £35 billion energy bill by 20 per cent inside a year.

Pay increases top 6.5%

Pay settlements show no sign of falling from their level of 6.5 per cent, and could rise further in spite of ministers' exhortations, two surveys have found.

Kohl accused

Tass accused Chancellor Kohl of exposing the "contradictions" of West German policy towards Eastern Europe during a speech in Hanover.

Hippies move

About 800 hippies moved out of Saverne Forest in Wiltshire hours before a High Court order compelling them to leave came into force.

Peking change

Peking has replaced one of its most important army commanders, 72-year-old Li Desheng, who rose to power during the Cultural Revolution, with a younger man.

Union favourite

Mr John Edmonds is likely to take over from Mr David Bassett as the next leader of Britain's third largest union, the General, Municipal, Boilermakers and Allied Trades Union.

China visit

Twenty of the City's most senior executives will visit Peking next month to advise the Chinese on saving money on international borrowing.

Medici letters

A previously unknown archive of 16th century letters to the Medici family of Florence is being sold by Christie's. The sale has been strongly criticized by the keeper of manuscripts at the British Library.

Bruno blow

Frank Bruno may miss out on a world title bout with Larry Holmes in September after reports that the champion has signed to meet Michael Spinks.

Peres orders silence on hijack demands

From Christopher Walker
Jerusalem

Israel yesterday imposed a news blackout on all official comment on its response to the hijackers' demand for the immediate release of more than 700 Shia Muslim prisoners.

The prisoners, who are in a detention camp to north-east Israel, are those remaining from the 1,200 driven across the border from Lebanon in April when Israel abandoned its prison camp at Ansar.

The blackout was ordered by Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, after the demand of

the hijackers had been outlined to the Cabinet by Mr Yitzhak Rabin, the Defence Minister, who is head of the team in close contact with the United States.

By last night, sources continued to insist that America

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had put no pressure on Israel to release the prisoners. But it was noted in political circles that Israel's stand had been greatly complicated by its decision last month to free

1,150 Arab prisoners, including some from Lebanon, in exchange for only three Israeli prisoners of war.

"If they do ask, it does not seem that we have any moral grounds for refusing," said Professor Ariel Merari, a leading Israeli expert on terrorism. "It is quite possible that our surrender to terrorism had an influence, and served as a further encouraging factor."

The Cabinet discussion was at a meeting of the Ministerial Defence Committee. Its proceedings are treated as official secrets, and their publication is

prohibited by law. Because of the unprecedented secrecy, there were rumours throughout the day that Israel might be contemplating a deal, but by early last night none had been confirmed.

In response, a number of right-wing Israeli politicians launched a campaign to prevent any releases which had not first secured majority approval in the Knesset. Rabbi Meir Kahane, leader of the extreme-right Kach party, issued a statement calling on Israel to respond to the hijackers by executing Lebanese prisoners.

Shuttle to test Star Wars laser

Cape Canaveral (Reuters) -

The space shuttle Discovery will blast off today on a commercial, scientific and military mission which will include the first space test of laser technology for President Reagan's controversial Star Wars programme.

In the test of a laser tracking system, a low-power laser beam will be fired at a mirror, eight inches in diameter, attached to the shuttle's window. The object of the test is to see whether a ground-based laser could be aimed accurately enough to destroy a Soviet nuclear missile.

A Saudi Arabian Prince Sultan bin Salman bin Abdulaziz, the Islamic world's first astronaut, and Lieutenant-Colonel Patrick Baudry of France will join five American astronauts for the shuttle's 18th mission.

Welsh miners oppose election rule change

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

South Wales miners' leaders are mounting a challenge to a proposed rule change which would allow Mr Arthur Scargill to remain president of the National Union of Mine-workers until he retires.

The move is to oppose an attempt to withdraw from Mr Scargill the casting vote at meetings of the NUM's national executive committee. Unless he renounces his casting vote, the union president would, by law, have to stand for election by December next year.

Members of the South Wales NUM executive agreed to oppose the rule change, which will be discussed at the union's national conference in two weeks. A meeting of South Wales pit delegates on Thursday will take the final decision on the area's policy for the conference, but is likely to

Communist Party plans new paper

The British Communist Party announced yesterday that it plans to launch a weekly newspaper in the wake of the rift between the party leadership and the *Morning Star*.

The dispute between the Eurocommunist leadership and the hard-liners who control the paper reached a crisis at last month's special party congress.

The leadership routed the *Morning Star* "Stalinists" by winning all 45 seats on the executive committee and securing the endorsement of the expulsion of 18 hard-liners.

The party's statement also attacked those on the management committee of the People's Press Printing Society who continued their opposition at the society's annual meeting last week with a vote of confidence in the *Morning Star*.

Meacher's shadow post threatened

By Philip Webster
Political Reporter

Mr Michael Meacher, Labour's health and social security spokesman, is believed by MPs to be under threat of removal from the Shadow Cabinet in next autumn's elections.

Mr Meacher, a left winger elected for the first time in 1983, has lost the confidence of Shadow Cabinet members and MPs on the centre and right, on some of whose support he relies.

They have been disappointed by his performance in a post which senior figures now regard as important as any in the Shadow Cabinet.

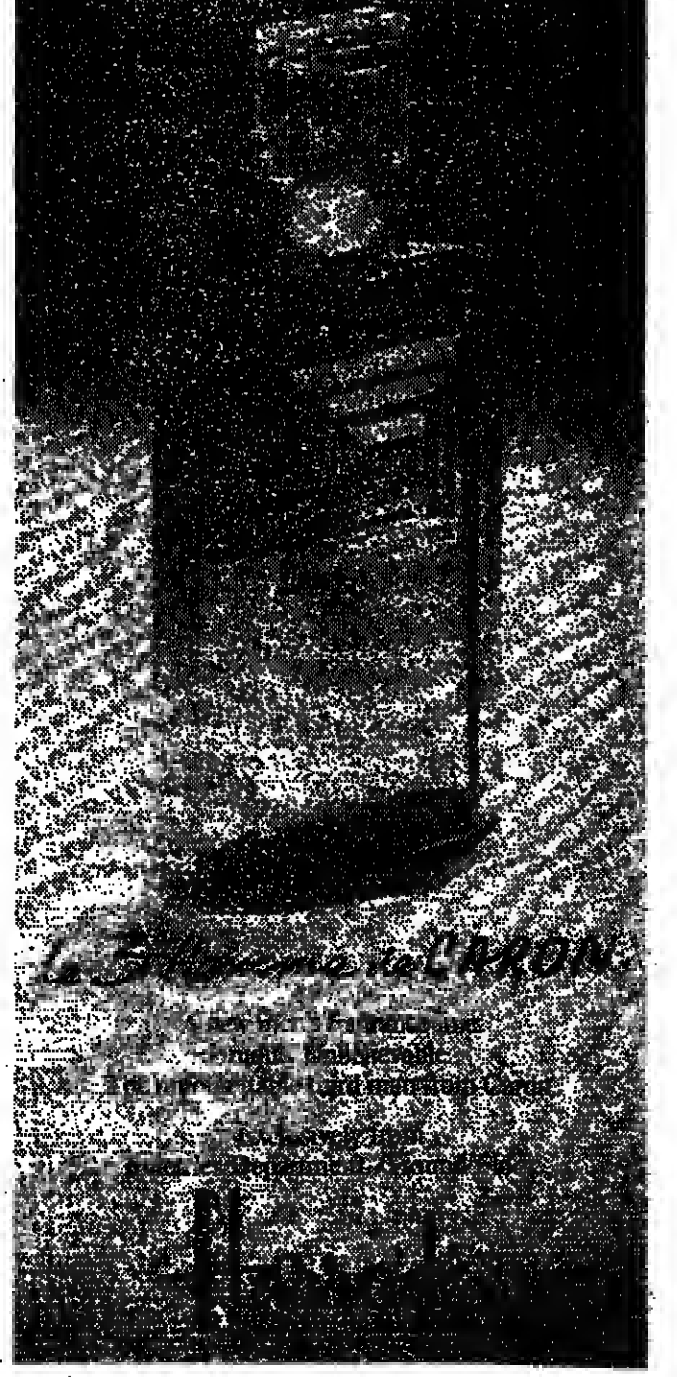
The review by Mr Norman Fowler of the social security system has given the Labour Party ammunition which they believe can be used right up to and through the next general election campaign. But there are considerable doubts among Mr Neil Kinnock's senior colleagues as to whether Mr Meacher should be the man to retain charge of Labour's case.

The decision by Mr Kinnock to take the lead in the immediate response to Mr Fowler's Green Paper, and in last week's dispute over gainers and losers, was a deliberate move.

The Labour leader will also open Labour's attack in tomorrow's debate on the reviews, with Mr Meacher, in a supporting role.

There was considerable anger in the Shadow Cabinet over Mr Meacher's alleged mishandling of the presentation of his own proposals to change the social security system, which were portrayed in the Press as a plan to end mortgage interest relief. Shadow Ministers complained of learning of his plans only through leaks.

Parfums Caron



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Huge energy efficiency campaign next year to reduce cost by 20%

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

Every home and workplace in Britain is to be directly involved in a government-run energy efficiency campaign next year aimed at cutting the annual £35 billion energy bill by 20 per cent in less than twelve months.

With 1986 designated energy efficiency year, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, is already planning the direct mailing of almost every home, a compendium with a three-bedroom energy-efficient house as first prize and an advertising campaign.

He is persuading the oil, gas, electricity and coal industries to target their advertising budgets towards energy efficiency and wants people buying goods ranging from washing machines to houses to demand facts on their energy costs.

Grants of up to £10,000 will be available to industry for special surveys because Mr Walker wants companies to know about the vast potential

energy savings which automatically increase profits.

After the setting up of an energy efficiency office within his department and the attendance last year of more than 16,000 senior company executives at "breakfast specials" to hear about potential savings, Britain's energy efficiency record in 1984 was better than those of its competitors for the first time in years.

Now Mr Walker hopes that next year's campaign will help Britain to move to the top of the energy efficiency league within the lifetime of the present Parliament.

He told *The Times*: "I do not know of any other sphere of the British economy where we can save £7 billion so easily."

Mr Walker, who is trying to persuade building societies and estate agents to highlight energy costs in the way they do rates, wants home owners to concentrate on roof insulation, lagging

hot water pipes and preventing heat-sapping draughts.

After a successful experiment by the Eastern Electricity Board he hopes that shops selling electrical goods will display the energy cost of a product with its price.

"I want the public to start to demand when they buy a fridge, deep freezer or washing machine an assessment of the energy costs per week and per year because they differ considerably," Mr Walker said.

Ministers estimate that for every £1 a company spends on a survey to discover the causes of wasted energy, resulting improvements will produce savings of £80. At Heathrow Airport a survey disclosed potential savings of £8 million.

"The majority of British businesses have over the years been about energy efficiency and yet every £1 saved goes straight into their profits column," Mr Walker added.

Chemists fear loss of their shops

By David Walker, Social Policy Correspondent

The Government plans to put about 2,500 corner chemists out of business in spite of its manifesto commitment to help small businesses, a spokesman for a new pharmacists' pressure group said yesterday.

Mr Joey Martin, of the Pharmacists' Action Committee, said a scheme recently hatched in secret between the Department of Health and Social Security and big retail chemists would close thousands of local shops by depriving them of the chance to dispense National Health Service prescriptions.

Mr Martin was referring to the agreement between the Government and pharmacists' representatives for a revised contract of service with the NHS. Among its provisions, small shops dispensing fewer than 16,000 health service prescriptions a year will have their basic allowance cut.

The Pharmacists' Action Committee said this could reduce the number of working pharmacies from 11,000 to about 8,500. The plan would

favour the high street chemists, it said, and would make it impossible for a young pharmacist to enter the business even to open his or her own shop.

According to a DHSS spokesman yesterday, no date had been set officially for introducing the new NHS pharmacists' contract and the Government was still awaiting the response of pharmacists' representatives.

Local pharmacists' council representatives are to meet in London next weekend to consider the contract, which has also come under fire from the big chemists.

It contains a scheme designed to even out the number and location of chemists throughout the country by ensuring that applications for new shops are vetted by local committees.

Mr Brian Kerner, the chairman of Underwoods, said: "If a pharmacy knows it has no competition and is never likely to have any, there is no reason why it should bother to make an extra effort with its service to the customer."

Payments to farms save marshland

By John Young

Agriculture Correspondent

Farmers who own or rent 95 per cent of the 11,500 acres of Halvergate Marshes, in Norfolk, have agreed to accept annual payments of £50 an acre for the next three years in return for not ploughing or draining the land.

The response by 111 farmers has delighted ministers at the Ministry of Agriculture and the Department of the Environment. The scheme was strongly backed by the Countryside Commission and the National Farmers' Union and was seen as evidence of a new spirit of co-operation in countryside conservation.

Having committed itself to spend £1.5 million over three years, the Government is clearly anxious not to make an open-ended commitment to introduce similar schemes in other threatened areas.

Ministers will also be aware that, in the light of the ever mounting costs of buying, storing and disposing of vast quantities of surplus grain, a relatively small subsidy to support grazing sheep or cattle at low densities has distinct economic as well as environmental attractions.

Holiday fun for friends in publisher's will

Publisher James Mitchell spread a little happiness among his friends in his will.

Mr Mitchell, who died in March, aged 45, after a long illness, was joint founder of one of the most successful post-war British publishing houses, Mitchell Beazley.

In his will, in which he left an estate of £957,806 net, he made bequests to a number of friends. One £10,000 bequest to "my very great and loyal friend" Andrew Henderson, carried the proviso, "that the legacy is used for his own personal holiday purposes, most especially fishing..."

Race fatality

David Mulcahy, aged 27, a Civil Servant and amateur racing cyclist, from Crosby, Merseyside, was killed yesterday when he was in collision with an ambulance during the opening event of the Isle of Man international cycling week.

Race results, page 20

Growing shortage of office skills

By Our Commercial Editor

Shortages of temporary secretaries and more specialist personnel such as word processor and computer operators are getting worse, according to Mr Chris Kelly, managing director of Reed Employment, one of the biggest recruitment agencies in the South-east.

Reed, which places permanent and temporary jobs, has 3,000 vacancies for audio or shorthand typists and bookkeepers. Mr Kelly said, "Shortages of more qualified personnel were equally acute."

"The demand is booming and the supply is stagnating. Part of the problem seems to be that a lot of people in employment are reluctant to move," he said.

There was also a skills shortage. Many would-be typists had speeds of only 30 words a minute when 60 was more desirable. Mr Kelly said London accommodation was another crucial factor.

He was critical of colleges of further education still teaching with manually operated typewriters instead of the electric and electronic models now commonly in use.

The answer to the skills shortage was more emphasis on training, Mr Kelly said, adding: "Companies in the late eighties are going to need even more skills if they are to survive."

DHSS to investigate 'mismanagement' at council homes

By Richard Evans and Nicholas Timmins

Homes for children and elderly people run by the London Borough of Southwark are to be investigated after allegations of child sexual abuse, mistreatment of old people and financial irregularities.

The investigation, to be announced in the Commons this week, will be conducted by the recently established social services inspectorate of the Department of Health and Social Security, after a decision by Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State.

The Labour-controlled borough has about 30 homes. Reports of mismanagement concern three particularly.

● At the Nye Bevan Lodge old people's home in Camberwell allegations during the past year have included staff drunkenness, callousness and rudeness towards elderly people, disregard of medical instructions, inadequate supervision, dirt and improper manipulation of overmen.

● The Hollies complex in Sidcup, which has 42 children, was the scene of a near riot in October 1983 after children locked themselves in during an industrial dispute involving social workers. There have also been allegations of financial irregularities.

● Hollyshaw House, near Tunbridge Wells, descended into a "chaotic vacuum" ac-

cording to a confidential report prepared by social service chiefs.

A girl aged 17 was allowed to have a boy friend to stay overnight six times, a former member of staff was alleged to have frolicked naked with children in woods near by and a teenager was said to have had a sexual relationship with a boy aged 6. The home was closed late last year and the staff are being retrained to run it as a holiday home.

Last month in the Commons, Mr Patten told Ms Harriet Harman, Labour MP for Peckham and an opposition social services spokesman, in whose constituency Nye Bevan Lodge is situated, that there seemed to be a "substantial cover-up" by the council involving the Lodge.

Instead of being considered by the council's social services committee, allegations about Nye Bevan Lodge and the Hollies were discussed by the industrial relations emergency sub-committee, consisting of a small number of Labour members.

It is said that council manual workers trade unionists have close links to the Peckham Constituency Labour party.

Report on Nye Bevan Lodge by council officials disclosed that they wanted to launch an inquiry last July but were prevented because of the stance of trade unionists.

Last attempt to stop statue sale

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

A last attempt to stop the sale of two magnificent eighteenth-century sculptures at Phillips tomorrow has been launched by the Georgian Group.

The sculptures, depicting Saxon dieties Thunor and Woden, were made by John Michael Rysbrack for Lord Cobham's garden at Stowe, near Buckingham.

The "lost" figures, part of a set documented in contemporary literature, were discovered three years ago in the gardens of Northcliffe School, a listed building near Southampton.

It is now argued that the consent of the planning committee of the Test Valley Borough Council was required before the statues were removed from Northcliffe.

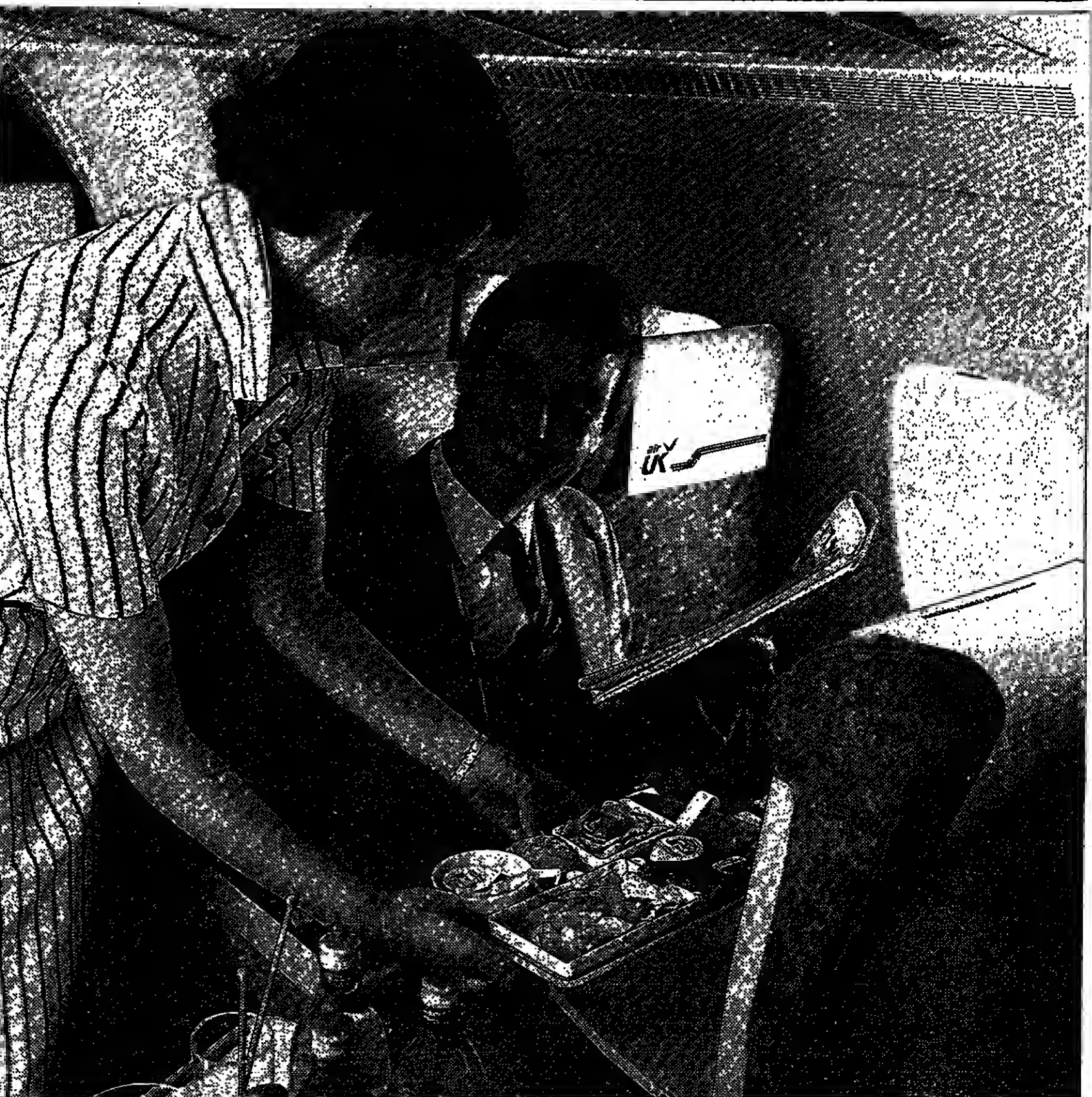
The Georgian Group's secretary, Mr Roger White, wrote to the council last week to express strong opposition to the granting of listed building consent for the statues' removal from Northcliffe, "except if they were to be returned to Stowe".

Mr Christopher Weston, chairman of Phillips, has consulted lawyers, but expects the sale to go ahead.



A giant-size welcome

Gogmagog, all 26ft of him, left visitors gaping in amazement at the Covent Garden Piazza, London, on Father's Day yesterday. It took 10 members of the Grand Order of Guisards, traditional folk dancers, to manoeuvre the modern version of the wooden giant once used to welcome returning monarchs. The original Gogmagog was gatekeeper to the City of London (Photograph: John Voos).



MPs' anger over missing 'Dr Death'

As police hunt the runaway prisoner known as Dr Death, who is believed to have drugged and robbed three old people since failing to return to prison from home leave in April, Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, is expected to face fierce questioning in Parliament today.

Sidney Duncan Noble (below), aged 57, became notorious as Dr Death when he was jailed in 1978 after admitting drugging and robbing middle-aged and elderly women.

Noble was recorded "unlawfully at large" on April 24 after failing to return to Northeye prison, Bexhill, East Sussex.

Behind heavy security, Austin Rover has shipped two versions of Project XX, its secret new saloon car, to the United States and shown it to 1,100 potential dealers.

The car, developed jointly with Honda, is spearheading the British company's return to the American market it left five years ago with the demise of the Triumph TR7.

Dealer viewings on Thursday and Friday last week at the O'Hara Hotel, Chicago, were so heavily guarded that Mr Bill Marriott, the head of the chain which owns the O'Hara, was refused admission.

An Austin Rover spokesman said: "This is the first time we have shown XX to anyone other than secretly conducted clinics when we test public reaction to cars." The dealers had been "quite ecstatic" about the car.

The XX, a replacement for the big Rover saloon in Britain, will be launched here next spring and go on sale in the US early in 1987.

Austin car impresses US dealers

By Clifford Webb

Motoring Correspondent

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Guide to owners' renting rights

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A prudent landlord need not be frightened of letting his property, provided he fully understands the legal implications, a Consumers' Association book, *Renting and Letting* says today.

Difficulties over regaining property have been highlighted by the case of the Syrian diplomat who refused to leave a British family's flat. The book coincides with renewed concern that the law may be balanced against the longer-term interests of tenants by deterring landlords from letting otherwise available property.

The book says that if a tenant refuses to move a landlord cannot get possession unless he obtains a possession order from the county court. For that he must establish one of the 20 grounds for possession, in the Rent Act 1977.

In 10 of them, the court has discretion whether to make an order for possession. The other 10 are mandatory where the court must give an order for possession if the landlord has established his grounds and has given proper notice to quit.

The first of those mandatory grounds is the case of the returning owner occupier, which was designed to enable a person to let his home temporarily until he is returned for occupation.

But the landlord must have lived in the accommodation before letting it and, from the start of that tenancy, and previous ones, have given written notice to the tenant that possession might be recovered.

Another ground is that the owner must intend to live in the accommodation when he retires from regular employment and must have given the tenant notice in writing on or before the start of the tenancy that possession might be required.

If a home was let for a fixed term of eight months or less, having been let for a holiday during the previous 12 months, the landlord must be granted a possession order.

In another case, accommodation owned by educational institutions may be let while it is not required for student use. The accommodation must have been let for a fixed term of 12 months or less, having been let to students during the previous 12 months.

The court must order possession if the accommodation was intended for a clergyman but was temporarily let to an ordinary tenant.

Similarly, possession will be granted to a farmer, who lets property that is usually occupied by a farm worker to an ordinary tenant on a temporary basis.

Other cases cover accommodation previously occupied by a farm manager or his widow and has been let temporarily to an ordinary tenant and lettings by servicemen.

Shorthold tenancy, introduced by the Housing Act, 1980, represents a move to encourage private landlords to let their property rather than sell it. They can create short lets of dwellings which will be free from the normal security of tenure provisions when the term expires, but still within the fair rent system. A shorthold can be created for a new tenancy only.

When first introduced, a condition to the grant of a shorthold was the compulsory registration of a fair rent. That is still true for lettings in Greater London.

Basically, any non-resident private landlord can let furnished or unfurnished accommodation to a tenant on shorthold, provided he fulfils certain conditions.

Among them are that the tenancy must have been created after November 28, 1980; for a fixed term of between one and five years which cannot be brought to an end earlier by the landlord, unless the tenant breaks one of the terms of the agreement; and to a new tenant.

Renting and Letting Consumers' Association and Hodder & Stoughton, available from bookshops and subscription department, Consumers' Association, PO Box 44, Hertford SG14 1SH; £5.95.

One in a million

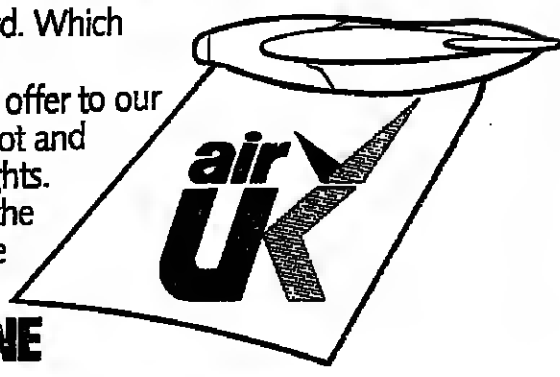
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Joseph wants more pay for teachers with extra responsibilities

By Lacy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Civil Servants at the Department of Education and Science have worked out a scheme to reward certain teachers with special responsibility or in shortage subjects, in a plan to restructure salaries.

It is understood that Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education and Science, has agreed with other Cabinet ministers to an extra £100 million to fund the scheme next year. It would amount to an extra 2.5 per cent on whatever pay rise teachers win next year.

It is understood that Sir Keith wants teachers of mathematics and science, who are difficult to recruit, to receive more, and also heads of departments, who carry special responsibilities.

These proposals are in almost direct contrast to the kind of restructuring ideas published by the local authority employers last November, which would have given all teachers an extra 7 per cent.

Sir Keith's scheme will therefore be condemned by both employers and teachers' unions.

According to sources in Whitehall Sir Keith asked the Chancellor of the Exchequer and other Cabinet ministers for an extra £200 million for restructuring teachers' salaries, but his request was rejected.

Mr Nigel Lawson did say, however, that he could have given £100 million for the purpose, but that would have to include teacher appraisal and midday supervision.

In his recent letter to Mr Philip Morrison and Mrs Nicky Harrison, leaders of the local authority employers, Sir Keith explained that the Government would be willing to provide extra money for teachers' pay next year but he did not say how much.

"The Government envisages an agreement which would require employers to promote more teachers than under the existing system to the higher salary scales, exercising their discretion in doing so in the light of the quality of teachers' work and the demand for their skills and qualifications elsewhere."

"The Government believes that increased promotion could benefit a large number of teachers directly over a period and change pay prospects for all teachers," Sir Keith said.

These two sentences are thought to refer to the restructuring scheme.

An employers' source considered that 2.5 per cent for restructuring was unhelpful and would act as a "red rag" to the teachers' unions. "We have got to turn the course of negotiations for the future and we are not going to do it with 2.5 per cent," he said.

Mr David Hart, general secretary of the association, said that heads and deputies had been striving since the beginning of sanctions to carry out their obligations to pupils and parents.

"The level of personal involvement of these most senior members of staff and the strain it imposes upon them was accepted as a short-term necessity."

At £500 million, housing benefit is the biggest single saving in the benefits review. Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent, reports.

One aspect of the Government's housing benefit proposals has received almost universal welcome; the huge simplification in the proposed scheme's structure.

In place of two separate means tests to establish eligibility for the benefit, and six different "tapers" which decide how quickly benefit is withdrawn with rising income, the Government's proposals would involve one test and one taper.

The test will be essentially the same as for the new income support, which is to replace supplementary benefit and will be based on take-home pay, not on income before tax and national insurance as at present.

That will remove the need for one of the worst aspects of the present scheme, a complex separate arrangement known as housing benefit supplement for those whose income is taken below supplementary benefit level only by their housing costs.

In addition, those in low paid work and pensioners whose income is still only at the level they would get on supplementary benefit will have all of their rent paid, instead of only 60 per cent at present.

After that, however, the Government's critics, who will include a significant number of Conservative backbenchers, take strong issue with the proposals.

The reason is that the housing benefit, which has already been cut twice in the past two years - last year by £195 million - is to be cut again, this time by about £500 million.

Among the key groups of losers will be people in low paid work, and those with small occupational pensions on top of the basic state pension. These groups have already lost in some cases between £3 and £6 a week to benefit from the previous cuts.

The new cuts will fall in a number of ways. The key ones are first the rate at which the benefit is to be withdrawn (the taper). The second is the proposal to make everyone on supplementary benefit pay 20 per cent of their rates. At present this group have their housing costs met in full, unless they have someone in the household classed as not being dependent on them. Third is the decision to combine the rent and rate tapers into one.

The Government's Green Paper gives no figure on what that taper will be, but a worked example uses a figure of 70 per cent (70p of the benefit withdrawn for each extra £1 of net income), which most observers believe to be the figure the Government has in mind. At present, rent and rates are withdrawn on separate tapers, with the help with rates being withdrawn much more slowly than help with rent. Combining the two will mean rate losses for owner-occupiers, many of them pensioners, who receive help only with rates.

The proposal to make people on supplementary benefit meet 20 per cent of their rates will also reverse one of the key advantages that come with the introduction of housing benefit. Local authorities, instead of paying themselves direct the rent and rates they are due, will be faced with collecting large numbers of often small sums from ratepayers.

The Government claims the move will improve local accountability, discouraging people from voting for high-spending (and often Labour) local authorities, knowing that any rate increase will not affect them. But the move will introduce large amounts of extra administration for local authorities when the aim of the Government's review is to simplify. And the proposal was directly opposed by the independent Kew report on housing benefit, published with the Green Paper, which said it would increase collection costs.

Tomorrow: Gainers and losers.

Peat boom brings jobs hope to Ulster

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Bogland is providing Northern Ireland with its latest growth industry as large areas of peat are being exploited, with potential for new jobs.

Unlike the Irish Republic which recognized the value of vast areas of bogland 40 years ago, development in Ulster has been limited because of smaller workable areas and an insufficient depth of peat.

But now the introduction of new technology and small cutting machinery has made it feasible to exploit a small acreage of bogland. The companies of Keshmarragh and Tyrone are thought to have the best potential. With increasing commercial development has come a slow demise of a once traditional scene in rural areas: manual digging of turf by men of the family plot.

There are about 200 workable bogs in the province, with an estimated seven million tons of peat ranging in depth from 3ft to 40ft. Until five years ago most of the peat, which provides a distinctive aroma and little dust when burned, was dug for use in homes.

The introduction of a cutter resembling a huge chainsaw, which can cut peat in strips two inches wide and 3ft deep, has encouraged development and is hoped 400 jobs will be provided during the next two years. It is expected production will rise from the present 50,000 tons a year.

Mr James McBarrow, a local enterprise development unit officer in Fermanagh and Tyrone, said: "As well as domestic use, we are to study the possibility of industry and public buildings using peat as fuel."

Institute of Directors woos top executives

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

The Institute of Directors, chief rival to the Confederation of British Industry as representative of employers, reported today that its world membership had passed 31,000, the highest for 10 years.

Membership in the United Kingdom grew by 1,300 last year to almost 25,000. The institute claims that directors from the largest companies were prominent in the 1984 intake, but it adds that many new members came from enterprises less than 10 years old and their average age was under 40.

In its annual report, Mr Richard Harris, chairman of the institute, says that under the leadership of Sir John Hoskyns, the new director general, the IoD "is showing an even stronger determination to set the agenda and take the lead in striving to establish an economy which is more adaptive, flexible and competitive."

The institute, based in Pall Mall, London, received more than £2 million in subscriptions last year, against 1.8 million in 1983, and earned £1.3 million from its catering facilities. Its members' information and advisory service, which in 1984 dealt with a record 8,000 requests for help, was up by one third.

Professor John Constable, who today starts as director general of the British Institute of Management does not believe Britain's manufacturing sector is going to create new jobs for a long time, if ever.

The jobs will come through other sectors of the economy, he said. Professor Constable, aged 49, has been with Cranfield School of Management, since 1982.

Beirut hijack

Hostage release deal

From a Correspondent, Athens

Greece apparently had no qualms about releasing the self-confessed hijacker who was arrested at Athens airport after his two accomplices commandeered the TWA jet.

The Public Order Minister Mr Thanassis Tsoufas, said he was "delighted" that the decision to yield to the hijackers' threat to kill seven Greek passengers unless their comrade was freed led to the release of 50 hostages.

Alli, aged 21, the Shia Muslim who failed to find a seat on the flight from Athens to Rome on Friday, told Greek police how the hijackers had smuggled a pistol and two hand grenades through two security checks at Athens airport.

He was flown to Algiers on Saturday on a special Olympic Airways flight. A brief official statement said he was freed "in an effort to ensure a bloodless solution to the hijack and liberation of the hostages."

During two-and-a-half-hours of negotiations, the Greek Ambassador to Algiers persuaded the hijackers that a group of Greek-Americans on board the Boeing 727 should be regarded as Greeks and also freed in exchange for Alli.

There were emotional scenes at Athens airport on Saturday night when a five-member

Relief in Athens

Chronology

Anatomy of a terror weekend

Beirut (Reuters) - By midday yesterday Trans World Airlines flight 847 had landed twice in Algiers and three times in Beirut since being commandeered on Friday soon after it left Athens for Rome.

The Boeing 727's tense weekend odyssey (all times GMT):

Friday, June 14

0704: Two Lebanese Shias carrying grenades and at least one pistol seize plane soon after takeoff from Athens with 153 people, mostly Americans, on board.

0855: Plane lands in Beirut. Hijackers release 17 American women and two children. A hijacker radios main demand - freedom for some 800 Lebanese Shias held in Israel. Demands also include international condemnation of United States and Israel.

1025: Plane takes off from Beirut.

1433: Plane lands in Algiers, 22 people released - 18 American women and a child, one Greek woman and two Arab men, according to Algeria Presse Service news agency.

1915: Plane leaves Algiers.

2325: Plane lands in Beirut for a second time. Hijackers shoot dead an unidentified American, say airport sources to be a US Marine.

Saturday, June 15

0250: Aircraft leaves Beirut.

0645: It lands in Algiers for a second time. Three passengers are released. Algerian negotiators enter aircraft.

About 1200: Hijackers threaten to kill passengers one by one and blow up plane if there is no response to their demands. They say they do not belong to any organization.

About 1515: An accomplice of the hijackers, detained in Athens, is exchanged for 19 Greek and US passengers and five stewardesses. Another 23 elderly men after Algerian authorities read out their demands over airport loudspeakers. Algiers radio reports hijackers say they freed them in exchange for handover to Syria of a "brother fighter" held in Cyprus.

Sunday, June 16

About midnight: Hijackers release three hostages after talks with International Red Cross official.

0800: Plane leaves Algiers with about 40 passengers, mostly American men, three cockpit crew and several hijackers.

0900: Hijackers' first deadline for release of 800 Lebanese Shias jailed in Israel passes.

1150: Aircraft lands in Beirut for third time. Hijackers refuse to free more hostages unless Israel releases Shias.

Tense relations

UN troops in fist fight with militia

From Christopher Walker, Jerusalem

Relations between United Nations troops to south Lebanon and members of Israel's proxy militia, the South Lebanon Army, remained tense yesterday following the release 24 hours earlier of the 21 Finnish UN soldiers held hostage by the SLA for over a week.

The release, ordered by the SLA commander, General Antoine Lahd after mounting diplomatic pressure on Israel, was followed by a fist fight between Norwegian UN soldiers and SLA men whom they had stopped at a check point inside the security zone, which Israel has requested that the SLA police in the border region.

Senior UN sources insisted that the kidnapping had not in any way altered its attitude towards the SLA, which it will continue to treat as an illegal militia whose members it intends to prevent carrying arms when they are not accompanied by Israeli troops, regarded as an occupying army.

Israeli officials alleged that the kidnapping had in fact secured de facto recognition of the SLA by UN, the UN interim force in Lebanon. This claim was contested by UN officials, who said the bizarre incident had done considerable damage to diplomatic relations between Israel and the 10 governments who contribute to the 5,800-strong UN force.

The question of Israel's control of the SLA is certain to surface in Dublin this week, where President Chaim Herzog begins a state visit today.

Re-entry visa

A Sri Lankan mother of two, resident in Britain, has been told she must get a visa to re-enter the country after going on holiday, although her family is British.

The advice to Mrs Angela Fernando, who has a Sri Lankan passport, is a result of immigration restrictions imposed last month by the Home Secretary to stop the flood of Tamil refugees.

The Home Office confirmed that it was necessary for all Sri Lankans to have a visa,

Paperwork 'delaying' deportation

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

At least half of all prisoners held under the Immigration Act want nothing more than to leave the United Kingdom at the first opportunity, according to a report today from the Prison Reform Trust and the Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants.

Yet they can expect to spend an average of six weeks in prison while the Home Office lingers over the paperwork before deporting them at public expense.

Mr John Olusajo, from Nigeria, was arrested at Gatwick airport when leaving the country and charged with overstaying, the report says. Although he was able and willing to leave with his own ticket he spent 13 weeks in detention before eventually being deported.

Much of the delay arises from the processing of essentially worthless appeals. "Routine delay, inefficient record keeping and complacent obfuscation are the hallmarks of Home Office procedures."

The trust and the council want to encourage the use of existing provisions within the Immigration Act which allow voluntary departure. Red tape, which causes delays, should be cut.

The Home Office should ensure that convicted prisoners who are not challenging deportation do not face further detention at the end of their sentences, simply so that their deportation papers can be prepared.

A *Charade of Wasted Time: The case of Home Office inefficiency*. (Joint Council for the Welfare of Immigrants, 115 Old Street, London EC1V 9UR, 50p).

Issue of Government Stock

The Bank of England announces that Her Majesty's Treasury has created 14th June 1985, and has issued to the Bank, additional amounts as indicated of the following Stock:

£200 million 2½ per cent INDEX-LINKED TREASURY STOCK, 2013

The price paid by the Bank on issue was in each case the middle market closing price of the relevant Stock on 14th June 1985 as certified by the Government Broker.

The amount issued on 14th June 1985 represents a further tranche of the relevant Stock, ranking in all respects *pari passu* with that Stock and subject to the terms and conditions of its prospectus (save as to the particular terms which relate to the initial sale of the Stock) and subject also to the provisions contained in the final paragraph of this notice. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stock listed above, dated 15th February 1985 may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

Applications have been made to the Council of the Stock Exchange for the further tranche of stock to be admitted to the Official List.

The Stock will be repaid on 16th August 2013 (provision is made in the prospectus for stockholders to be offered the right of early redemption under certain circumstances). Interest is payable half-yearly on 16th February and 16th August. The further tranche of the Stock will rank for the interest payment of £1.2280 per cent due on 16th August 1985 on the existing Stock.

Both the principal of and the interest on the Stock are indexed to the General Index of Retail Prices. The index figure relevant to any month is that published seven months previously and relating to the month before the month of publication. The index figure relevant to the month of issue of the stock is the index figure contained in the final paragraph of this notice. Copies of the prospectuses for the Stock listed above, dated 15th February 1985 may be obtained at the Bank of England, New Issues, Watling Street, London, EC4M 9AA.

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● Delta force on alert

● Prayer in Illinois

● Pilot's long ordeal

● Patient reasoning fails

Force the last option

Crack US commando squad in positions for action

From Michael Binyon, Washington

The US has reportedly sent a commando unit to the Mediterranean, ready to storm the hijacked plane if necessary, but officials here have refused to comment except to say that all prudent measures were being taken, including military.

The unit is said to be part of a crack anti-terrorist squad of several hundred men who are based at Fort Bragg in North Carolina. The commandos, known as the Delta Unit, may have been sent to the aircraft carrier Enterprise, which is currently in the western Mediterranean. A spokesman for the special State Department hijack task force strongly denied that the unit had already been sent to Algeria.

The Delta Unit is specially trained to deal with hijackings, and in the past US officials have said the team would be used in response to a request from a country that lacked the expertise to storm a plane. Last December members of the Delta Unit were sent to the Mediterranean in case they were needed during the hijacking of a Kuwaiti plane to Iran.

As public anger and frustration here mounted, there have been loud calls for a swift military response either to free the hostages or to retaliate against the hijackers. The Reagan Administration, however, has made it clear that its first priority is to secure the safe release of all the passengers.

President Reagan has said several times in the past that American forces should strike back at terrorists if they could be identified and located. But, after threats of retaliatory action against Iran or Syria after the hijacking of the American Embassy in Beirut and the Marines' headquarters in the city, there were no military strikes against either country.

Despite Iran's denial of any involvement, officials here believe the hijackers are part of the extremist Islamic Jihad movement which is financed by Iran. However, American reprisals seem unlikely, certainly while the crisis is unresolved. There are no available land-based forces in the region.

The long wait

Relatives' vigil of hope

New York (AP) - Worried relatives of Americans on board the hijacked jet yesterday prayed and huddled by telephone, expressing fear and anger as they waited to hear if their relatives were among those freed from the plane.

"It's horrible," said Mrs Leah Abramson of North Miami Beach, Florida, whose nephew, Mr Michael Brown, and his bride, Judy, had been on their honeymoon in Europe. "I'm praying."

"I am going through hell," said Mrs Dorothy Sings of Elkhart, Indiana, whose 29-year-old son, Clinton, was on the plane. "We're all worried to death," said Mr John Sings, an uncle.

"It wasn't that bad," Miss Mari-Pat Weber, 18, of Allentown, New Mexico, said after she and her sister, Lynn Marie, 16, were released on Saturday.

But Dr Haimut Renger of Albuquerque said their mother, Mrs Patricia Weber, told him hijackers were beating passengers.

Mari-Pat said at first there were two hijackers aboard the plane but that about 10 others boarded the plane on Friday in Beirut. The identity of the man who was killed on the plane has not



Parishioners in Algonquin, join hands in prayer for the hostages, including their pastor, Rev William McDonnell.

President takes charge of crisis

Continued from page 1

been able to locate the body of the passenger shot by the hijackers on Friday. The Marine Corps has officially denied that he was a Marine, saying there were no Marines on board.

Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, joined President Reagan in a meeting of the National Security Council yesterday afternoon to consider American options. He said

earlier on television that the Government had tried "patient reasoning", but went on to describe the hijackers as "dangerous, fanatical, determined and willing to take risks".

He refused to give any details of the disposition of the Delta Force commando unit, which has reportedly been sent to the Mediterranean.

There was confusion here about the number of passengers

still being held on the plane. TWA said 153 people were originally on board, and some 97 had so far been released in batches, including most of the Greek passengers and all the women and stewardesses. A further 12 were taken off in Beirut.

An airline spokesman said there were now about 40 men, all American, on board as well as Captain John Testrake and two crew members.

Passengers appeal to Reagan

Continued from page 1

concrete just off the eastern runway.

Through the long afternoon, the exhausted and frightened American passengers on board were able to see the gunfire along the coast where the Israeli gunboat twisted and turned in the Mediterranean while shells spewed from the water off shore.

Throughout the afternoon, the hijackers were consistent in their demand for the release of the 800 Lebanese Shia Muslims imprisoned in Israel, but their radio conversation with the control tower sometimes wandered and showed signs of intense fatigue. At one point, they demanded fuel and then Lebanese newspapers. Then they demanded chicken for the passengers' dinner. One demand was for an unspecified number of videotapes.

Then, at dusk, they wanted the British, Swiss and French Ambassadors to negotiate for the release of the passengers with Nabih Berri, the "Amal" leader.

"Amal" has made some show of disgust at the hijack, one official of the organisation privately criticising the gunmen. It is also true that one "Amal" official called upon the hijackers to release the passengers, Bassam Tleiss, did so with great reluctance; equally, however, there can be no doubting the sympathy of the large number

of "Amal" gunmen at the airport. Nor are they doing anything to prevent help being given to the hijackers.

In their appeal to Mr Reagan - later broadcast over the radio to the Beirut control tower - the passengers, who were presumably ordered what to write, said that they were "writing freely and not under duress". Their letter began: "We implore you not to take any direct military action on our behalf. Please negotiate quickly our release by convincing the Israelis to release the 800 Lebanese prisoners as requested now."

The hijackers call themselves "The Movement of Oppressed Muslims" but they were previously members both of the Lebanese "Amal" militia and of the pro-Iranian Hezbollah ("Party of God") movement.

Western diplomats still in Beirut are convinced that they have since turned to working directly for both Syria and Iran. They trace the hijacking back to a Pan-Arab revolutionary organisation founded by Colonel Gaddafi in Libya on April 1. The organisation, which receives substantial Libyan money, dedicated itself to "revolutionary violence".

Behind the movement was a delegation of Baathist officials from Syria. All agreed to oppose with arms what was referred to as "American-Zionist schemes".

Tear gas ends Soweto riots commemoration

From Michael Hornsby, Soweto

The South African Police used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse a large crowd of blacks leaving the Regina Mundi Roman Catholic Church here yesterday after a meeting commemorating the ninth anniversary of the start of the student "uprising" of 1976.

The crowd gathered in the road outside the church and shook their fists at policemen in armoured troop carriers drawn up on the other side. Over loudhailers, the police ordered the demonstrators "to disperse or you will be dispersed" and then moved against them.

Earlier, more than 5,000 people crammed into the church hall in what has become a familiar ritual every June 16, when blacks across the country remember the 600 or more of their fellows who were killed in the year of upheavals that began with the Soweto riots.

This year's observance had an added edge because it came after nine months of renewed unrest and clashes with the police. These began last September in the Johannesburg

area and have since spread to other parts of the country, taking more than 400 lives.

The meeting was organized by the United Democratic Front (UDF) and the Azanian People's Organization (AZAPO), the two most radical, non-parliamentary opposition movements, in an effort to promote reconciliation between the two groups.

In recent months, there have been numerous clashes between members of the rival organisations which have continued despite appeals from their leaders for peace.

Speaker after speaker yesterday called for "unity in the struggle against the common enemy". Bishop Desmond Tutu, the winner of the 1984 Nobel peace prize, called on blacks not to resort to methods that "discredit a righteous cause".

This was apparently a reference to the killings, and assaults on, black policemen and township councillors, who are widely regarded as Government "stooges".

Coloured MPs take to arms after attacks

From Ray Kennedy, Johannesburg

Coloured and Indian MPs in South Africa's tri-cameral Parliament are buying pistols and taking shooting lessons after the grenade attacks on fellow parliamentarians.

Mr Denis de la Cruz, the Opposition leader in the Coloured House of Representatives, said this weekend: "I'm looking for a very good pistol. Preferably a 9mm Parabellum. It's no good getting a 0.22 if a man comes to kill you. You want something that will stop him."

Last night police were guarding the hospital bedside of a man, aged 22, who was wounded and arrested during a grenade attack on the home of

Mrs Elsie Shwabane, the vice-chairman of the Cape Town community council. It came within 24 hours of a similar attack on the home of the council's chairman.

Cape Town MPs feel they are particularly vulnerable to attack because they live in their own homes, unlike MPs from other parts of the country who stay in well-guarded compounds during the parliamentary session. But from Wednesday all will face the same risks when Parliament is prorogued.

Mr de la Cruz has asked for a 24-hour police guard but others feel that communities should be involved in the safety of their MPs.



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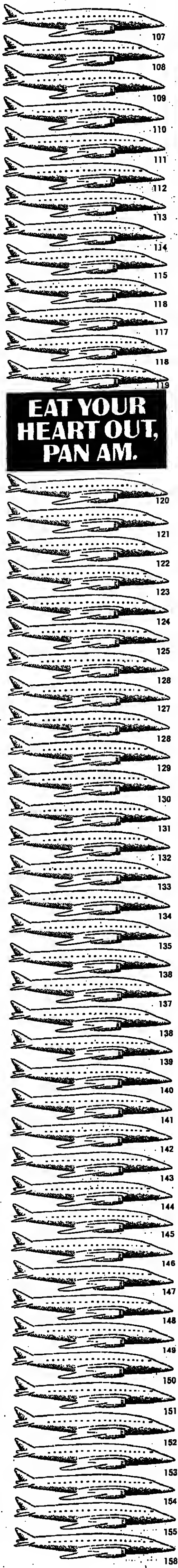
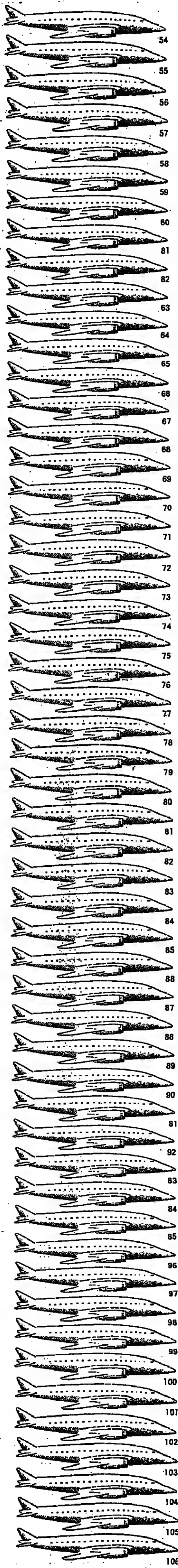
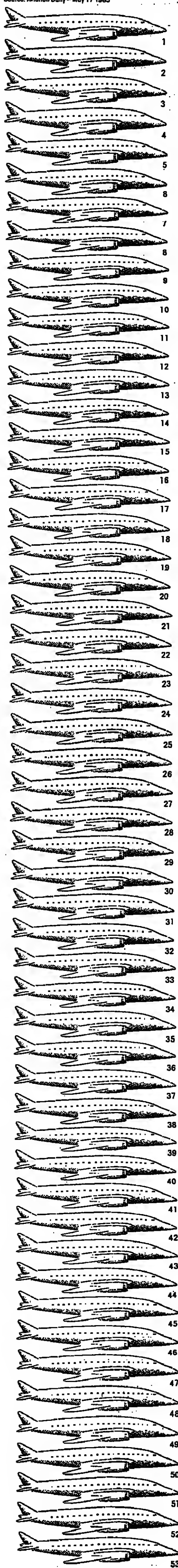
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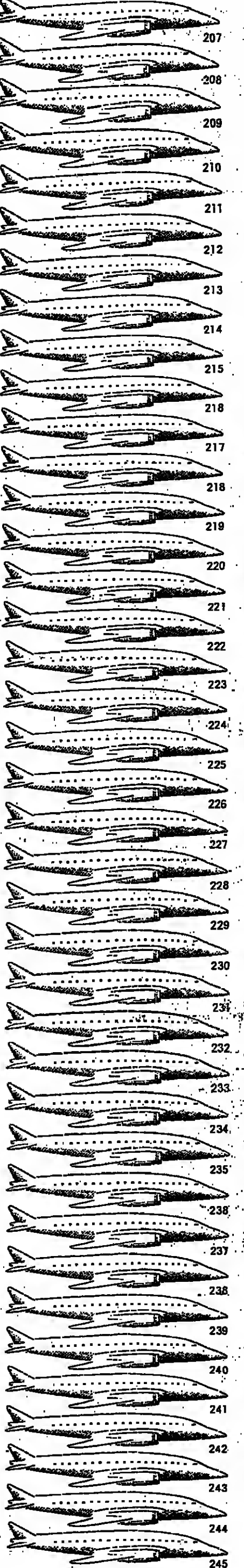
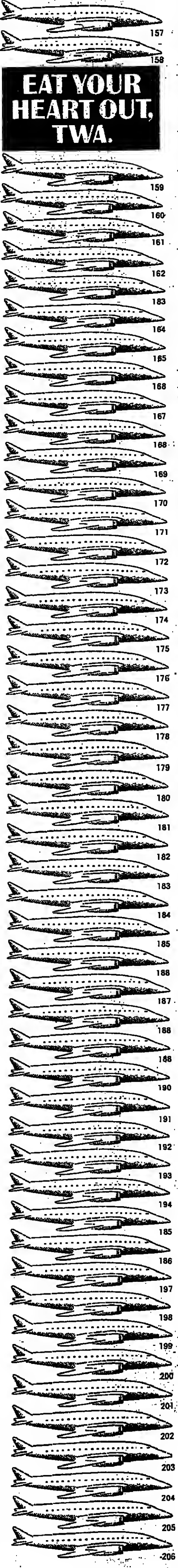
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The first budgetary decision by the European Commission on the 1984-85 financial year, which allows for a 10% increase in spending, will be approved by the Council of Ministers in Brussels on Saturday. The budget, drawn up by the Commission, provides for a 10% increase in the total amount of expenditure, from 1983 to 1984, to 10.5% of the Community's gross domestic product. The increase is to be achieved by a 10% increase in the amount of expenditure on the common agricultural policy, which will be 10.5% of the Community's gross domestic product, and a 10% increase in the amount of expenditure on the common transport policy, which will be 10.5% of the Community's gross domestic product. The increase in the amount of expenditure on the common agricultural policy is to be achieved by a 10% increase in the amount of expenditure on the common transport policy, which will be 10.5% of the Community's gross domestic product. The increase in the amount of expenditure on the common transport policy is to be achieved by a 10% increase in the amount of expenditure on the common agricultural policy, which will be 10.5% of the Community's gross domestic product.

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Nervous Kohl tells exiles return to Silesia must remain a distant dream

From Our Correspondent, Bonn

A visibly nervous Chancellor Helmut Kohl faced thousands of Silesian exiles in Hanover yesterday to tell them that a return to their old Prussian homeland, in Polish hands for 40 years, must remain a dream for them for a long time.

Herr Kohl said that legally the "German question" remained open, but could be resolved only by peaceful means through a treaty with Bonn's eastern and western neighbours. "War and force for us Germans is not a political means," he added.

Speaking to nearly 10,000 exiles in a hall at the Hanover air grounds, he said West Germany and Poland had no territorial claims on each other, nor would they raise any in future. Peace must emanate from German soil, he added, and that meant a "one-sided" alteration of Germany's frontiers was excluded.

Small groups of neo-Nazis, giving Hitler salutes with spread fingers, greeted this and other conciliatory passages in Herr Kohl's speech with derisory whistles. Orderlies did not intervene, nor did they react to several placards proclaiming: "Silesia remains ours."

This was the original provocative slogan for the exiles' rally, which was changed to "Silesia remains our future in Europe of free nations" after

Herr Kohl threatened to cancel his much criticized appearance at the meeting. But the orderlies were quick to tear down a red banner looted by two young girls with a message "Silesia remains Polish."

Ignoring the neo-Nazi heckling, which was countered by encouraging applause for him from the West German side, Herr Kohl said Bonn's *Ostpolitik* was legally anchored in various documents.

He said all these documents emphasized unmistakably the German legal position and firm adherence to the qualification of a peace treaty, as well as West Germany's preparedness for settlements and agreements with its eastern neighbours, above all with Poland.

Addressing himself directly to the people of Poland, he added: "The Federal Republic cannot and may not change the existing legal position for itself alone. But this legal position presents no threat for our neighbours."

Herr Kohl yesterday was the first West German chancellor to speak at an annual exile rally since Dr Ludwig Erhard 20 years ago. His plan to attend the rally came under running attack from early this year by the Social Democrat opposition in Bonn as well as Moscow and the rest of the East bloc which accuse the Silesians of revanchism.

He told the exiles: "We have not forgotten what unspeakable suffering and injustice were done to other peoples in the German name. We know our historical responsibility."

"You, the expellees and refugees, have paid a higher price for that than many others. You all lost your homeland. And many of you on top of that lost relatives and friends who died during flight and expulsion."

Herr Kohl praised the Silesians for renouncing revenge on the East in the expellees' charter signed in Stuttgart in 1950, only five years after the end of the war. But he reminded them that Silesia had also become a homeland for the Polish families who now live there.

"We shall respect that and not question it," he said.

Herr Kohl also referred to a statement made last March by Herr Herbert Hupka, the national chairman of the Silesian Exiles Association, which said: "One expulsion was an expulsion too many. There must be no new expulsions."

Herr Hupka yesterday said Germany's legal claim to Silesia remained unchanged. "The Federal Republic is not the final Germany," he added. "Germany is larger than the Federal Republic."



Chancellor Kohl: Heckled by groups of neo-Nazis.

MPs fight as Turkish police get more power

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

A controversial Bill giving the police unprecedented powers was passed by the Turkish Parliament in the weekend, after six days of stormy debate which led, for the first time in the legislature since the 1980 military coup, to pitched battles between government and opposition deputies.

The passing of the Bill early yesterday was preceded, however, by the Government's withdrawal of certain clauses.

Opposition parties, charging that the Bill was directed at the establishment of a "police state", constantly obstructed the proceedings.

The Bill, which led to charges of continued use of torture by the security forces and questions concerning the "multiplying instances of suspects jumping to their deaths from top-floor windows of police headquarters", had been criticized by West European democratic forums and the EEC.

Despite Opposition fears, shared by some deputies of the ruling Motherland Party, that the scope of the powers and the ambiguity of such descriptions as "indecent behaviour" or "suspicious circumstances" would inevitably lead to their abuse, the Prime Minister, Mr Turgut Ozal, has defended the Bill as necessary for internal security after the lifting of martial law.

Peking tames Army Deng ousts hardline leftist commanders

From Mary Lee, Peking

The Chinese leadership's attempts to streamline the People Liberation Army into a modern fighting force entered a new phase with the replacement of the PLA's most important commander, Mr Li Desheng, aged 72. He had commanded for 12 years the strategic north-eastern region of Shenyang, which encompasses the industrial provinces of Heilongjiang, Jilin and Liaoning.

Mr Li rose to power during the Cultural Revolution on the left-wing tide in Anhui province. Allied with the late Defence Minister, Marshal Lin Biao, and Mao Tse-tung's widow, Jiang Qing, he became commander of Peking, the most important of the country's 11 military regions, and soon after was made a Politburo member and party vice-chairman.

Shortly before he was transferred to become the Shenyang region commander in 1974, Mr Li asked to be removed from his Politburo seat, which he still retains. He remained in his Shenyang post even as the country's top party leadership underwent radical changes in the wake of the death of chairman Mao in 1976.

Even after Mr Deng Xiaoping assumed control of the party and Army in 1979 and began reshuffling the PLA's command, Mr Li held on to his position. He has now been replaced by Mr Liu Jingsong. The new commander is said to belong to a younger and more talented group of officers who have replaced three other regional commanders.

These new regional commanders will also be in charge of new merged regions. Jinan and Wuhan (Central), Lanzhou and Xinjiang (West), Chengdu and Kunming (South-East), Fuzhou and Nanjing.

The three strategic regions of Shenyang, Peking and Canton remain intact with the commanders of the latter two - Mr Qin Jiwei and Mr You Taizhong - still in charge.

The restructuring of the High Command came at the end of last week's meeting of the Central Military Commission, which is headed by Mr Deng. At that meeting, Mr Deng confirmed that the four-million-strong Army would be reduced by a quarter by 1988.

Relations between China and The Netherlands came under severe strain in 1981, when the Dutch Government approved the sale of two submarines to Taiwan despite the fact that The Hague was one of the first Western countries to recognize the communist Peking regime in 1950.

Lange suffers poll blow

From W. P. Reeves, Wellington

The Government took a beating in a New Zealand by-election on Saturday when Labour lost the seat of Timaru, which it had held for 57 years.

The main Opposition National Party transformed a deficit of 2,200 votes in the general elections last year into a 1,480-vote lead.

The by-election was brought about by the death of Sir Basil Arthur, former Speaker of the House of Representatives, who had represented Timaru in the South Island for 22 years.

The vote count on election night was: Mr Maurice McTigue (National) 9,057; Mr Jan Walker (Labour) 7,577; Mr Bill Greenacre (New Zealand Party) 2,935; Miss Lynley Simmons (Social Credit) 1,584.

The state of the parties in the single-chamber Parliament is now Labour 55, National 38, Social Credit 2.

Enlarged EEC will squeeze farmers

From Ian Murray, Brussels

The first budget for the 12-nation European Community plans spending of nearly £20 billion next year - almost £3 billion more than has just been agreed for this year.

The budget draft, issued over the weekend by the European Commission, projects a 16.5 per cent increase in spending in the enlarged Community. Of the total amount about £12.5 billion would be earmarked for agriculture, which, in fact, means that farmers will get a slightly smaller proportion of the available money than the two-thirds share they are being paid this year. The figures show that the Commission is trying to stick to its commitment to hold back growth in farm spending to a lower level than the growth in the Community's own income.

Mr Henning Christophersen, the budget Commissioner, said on Saturday that the spending plan allowed no farm price increases at all next year

and that spending on agriculture would be squeezed hard in the foreseeable future. About £240 million were to be spent in unleasing farm surpluses.

The budget is the first to take fully into account the new system for granting compensation to Britain. The British contribution for next year should be reduced by about £840 million.

The budget is also the first to be drawn up using the new, higher legal ceiling on contributions, which is supposed to be ratified by all national parliaments by the end of this year.

This increase, endorsed by the last EEC summit, is in the amount of value added which the Commission can require member-states to hand over. Because VAT levels are different in each country, the rate is hypothetical, calculated by assessing the revenue raised by VAT in each country on a common basket of goods.

European notebook

Plotting a brave new community



alter the face of Europe for the rest of our lifetime."

The speaker was Lord Cockfield, a man with no reputation for hyperbole. He was talking about 300 of the more complex and seemingly tedious proposals ever to emerge from the European Commission. He was clearly excited by it all, and convinced it would save the EEC £4.2 billion every year.

"We want a vibrant, expanding, thrusting, purposeful Europe," Lord Cockfield said. "We issue a challenge to the heads of government at the next summit. They have already said they want to open up the internal market by 1992. We have set it down in detail. We now hand the baton on to them."

Lord Cockfield came to Brussels at the start of the year with a reputation for being little more than a clone of Mrs Margaret Thatcher on all things European. But on Saturday, when he proudly presented his White Paper on "completing the internal market", he out-distanced the most idealistic Euro-fanatics with his dream of a new Community.

He saw a Europe where the ordinary citizen travelled from Copenhagen to Cadiz, from Aberdeen to Athens without being aware of crossing a frontier. He saw a Europe where lorries carried what goods they liked any where they liked without stopping at a single customs post. It was a Europe where airlines could have price wars, where capital flowed freely, where insurance policies, mortgages and unit trusts knew no boundaries.

It was a technologically aware Europe, adapted to the new information systems and challenges of American and Japanese know-how. It was a Europe where drug runners and terrorists would have no shelter, and where those unfortunate enough not to have an EEC nationality faced common visa formalities.

It was a Europe where

indirect tax levels everywhere were approximately the same, where companies could easily force links, where broadcasting flowed as easily as the airwaves and where common health and safety standards meant both food and food mixers could have access to every market place.

With all the meticulous attention to detail that made him one of the world's leading income tax experts, Lord Cockfield had broken down all the regulations stopping the EEC from turning into a true common market, and he set out a timetable for changing the face of Europe and revolutionizing world trade over the next five or six years.

It is easy to be skeptical. The Community has flattered only to deceive on too many occasions. Now it is being asked to accept a deluge of legislation, some of it with enormous political repercussions in individual countries, and to do it all in record time.

Lord Cockfield accepts all that, and admits that his proposals for the economic life of the Community. But he believes they will provide the basis of a cure for unemployment and a change in EEC fortunes. He is not pessimistic. "I never start from the point of view that we will fail; this is the best way of succeeding," he told the doubters.

He has identified three kinds of barrier inside the EEC: physical barriers at frontiers, technical barriers enshrined in national legislation on standards and fiscal barriers set up by different tax levels.

The axe he wants to smash them down with is not labelled "harmonization", but "standardization" or "approximation".

Essentially there would be no more attempts at agreeing identical standards. Instead there would be loose guidelines applicable to all. If something was fit for sale in one EEC country, it would automatically be fit for sale in any other. Indirect tax levels should approximate to each other by dint of never being 2½ per cent more or 2½ per cent less than anywhere else.

Ian Murray

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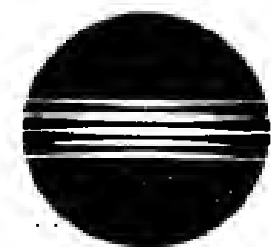
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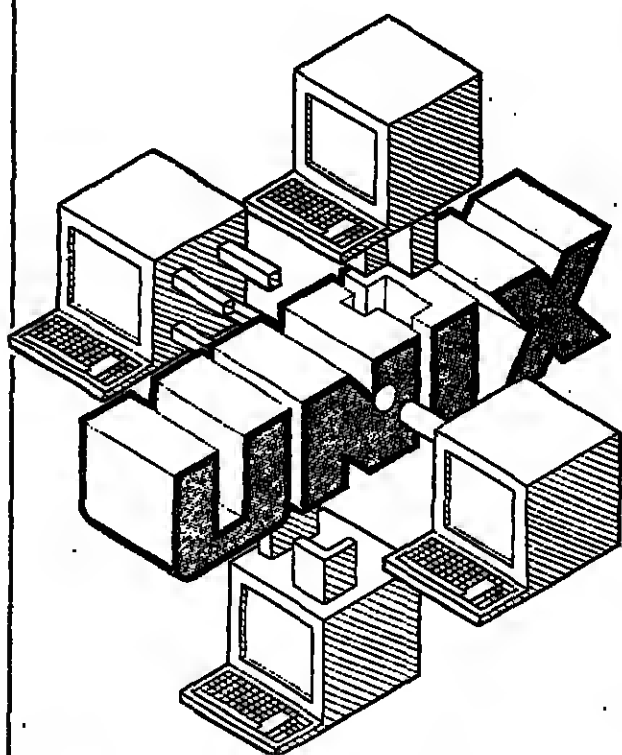
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Argentina gets a new look currency

From Douglas Tweedale
Buenos Aires

The price of all goods and services to Argentina will be frozen from today as part of President Raul Alfonsín's classic effort to bring inflation of more than 1,000 per cent of last.

Shops and businesses spent much of the weekend adjusting to the most dramatic of the measures an entirely new currency called the austral, introduced on Saturday to replace the Argentine peso. The austral, its value linked to the US dollar to give it stability, is worth 1,000 of the old pesos, but very few shops in Buenos Aires had made the change on their price tags yesterday.

Merchants who marked up their prices in anticipation of the freeze will be required to roll them back to last Wednesday's levels, although it is still unclear how the Government plans to enforce the price controls in Argentina's chaotic economy.

A bank holiday declared on Friday to quell market panic was extended to today to give the Central Bank time to adjust to the currency change. Government sources said it was quite possible banks would remain closed tomorrow as well.

The economic "shock treatment" to cure inflation was praised in Washington by US Treasury officials as "the most serious stabilization project by any Argentine government in the last 15 years". The reform came just one week after Argentina reached agreement with the International Monetary Fund on a \$1.4 billion (£1.1 billion) stand-by loan to help repay its \$48 billion foreign debt.

It is clearly the most sweeping, but also the riskiest, political initiative since Alfonsín has taken in his 18 months in office. In a televised speech on Friday, the Argentine President made clear he was staking all on the success of the new plan. "If the economic problem is not resolved, the political life of the nation will undoubtedly be in danger," he said.

Argentina's trade unions, dominated by the opposition Peronist party, have already vowed to resist the plan.

East-West deadlock at human rights forum

From John Best, Ottawa

The 35-nation human rights conference of experts in Ottawa was on the brink of collapse yesterday as deep divisions between Soviet-bloc and Western representatives threatened to prevent the adoption of a concluding document.

The six-week conference, under the umbrella of the 1975 Helsinki Final Act, is scheduled to finish today. Eight-hour efforts were under way last night to salvage a compromise agreement.

However, a spokesman for the host Canadian delegation, Mr Simon Wade, acknowledged that "things don't look very good", and a British spokesman, Mr George Hall, said the West was determined not to accept a "worthless piece of paper".

The Nato group, in a draft document tabled at the week-end, called for "regular meetings" to discuss the human rights provisions of the Helsinki Act.

A Soviet counter-draft omitted any reference to a follow-up meeting of experts. This the Nato countries found unacceptable. They consider the document exercise worth perpetuating because it provides an additional forum for scrutinizing Soviet compliance with the Helsinki accord.

His Lordship had to differ from the majority of the court in finding that the loss of future earnings of a child aged two was not too speculative to assess.

The Court of Appeal so held in allowing an appeal by Anthony David Mitchell, a minor suing by his father and next friend, Anthony Mitchell, of Mason Street, Liverpool 7, against an award by Mr Justice Russell of £33,800 against the defendants, Liverpool Area Health Authority (Teaching).

Mr Gerard Wright, QC and Mr Timothy R. A. King for the plaintiff, Mr David Clarke, QC and Mr F. David Owen for the defendants.

LORD JUSTICE PURCHAS said that the plaintiff was born on August 8, 1981. When he was barely one month old, as a result of the defendant's negligence he suffered damage to the right arm of his right arm, which was amputated at the elbow level.

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It was not disputed that the plaintiff would be able to earn his living, and that the areas in which he would be able to work would be restricted. The dispute was whether there was evidence that the judge, upon which he should have made an award for future loss of earnings.

Making Russia work Gorbachev really means business

In the first of two articles, Richard Owen in Moscow discusses the impact of the new Soviet leader's campaign for economic and social reform.

When Mr Mikhail Gorbachev went to Leningrad in May to "meet the people" - in itself an unusual step for a Soviet leader - he asked them what they wanted. "Deaths, not words" was one reply.

Mr Gorbachev took up the refrain in his speeches, but it began to rebound on him. "We've had a lot of Andropov-style talk about discipline and intensification of the economy," said one Muscovite, "but not much action except the anti-alcohol laws."

To some extent at least that changed last Tuesday, just as Mr Gorbachev was nearing the end of his first 100 days in office. Officially, there is no "honeymoon" period for a new leader here, but Mr Gorbachev knows that although time is on his side - he is 54 - there can be no delay, no waiting, no warming up period, as he trenchantly put it to the party conference on science and technology last week. He departed from his text with the words: "We must change from worker to manager."

Suddenly it dawned on many previously complacent planners and managers that the warnings of Mr Gorbachev's first speeches in March and April - "We cannot expect manna from heaven," "We must all change, from worker to manager" - might not be the usual empty rhetoric. There are no radical solutions, only the energetic application of



Moving up: From left, Mr Ryzhkov, General Chebrikov, Mr Ligachov and Mr Aliyev.

methods which have failed before, such as decentralization.

His speech to Leningrad party workers, off the cuff, glasses on the end of his nose, was a warning shot. "We must get the country moving," he means what he says.

Last week came the first traces for the malaise, which he traced back 15 years to Brezhnev's rejection of the draft for 1986-90 and the plan to the year 2000, decentralization, linking of effort and output to reward, investment in the re-equipping of factories rather than the building of new ones, ministries streamlined and purged, useless grandiose projects in mothballs, an injection of scientists and computer specialists into management.

Product quality had to go up to make Russian exports competitive. His admission that they "live by comparison" with the West was a blow to Russian pride, but honest and accurate. There is very serious

work ahead", Mr Gorbachev concluded.

Reform has its limits, on the other hand. So far, despite Mr Gorbachev's reported interest

insufficient system work will meet resistance from entrenched apparatchiks, beneficiaries of the Brezhnev and Chernenko eras. Andropov's tentative reforms met similar opposition.

On the other hand, Mr Gorbachev is young and determined, and he has his own team already in place to help him get the outmoded and the incompetent "out of the road", as he graphically put it. Mr Yegor Ligachov and Mr Nikolai Ryzhkov, both catapulted into the Politburo in April, General Viktor Chebrikov, of the KGB, Mr Viatcheslav Vorontsov and Mr Gelsler Aliyev, one of these could become Prime Minister in place of Nikolai Tikhonov, who is 80, either at the Supreme Soviet on July 2, or at the crucial party congress next February, when Mr Gorbachev hopes to see a new, younger and reform-minded 300-man Central Committee elected.

Tomorrow: Foreign policy

THE FIRST 100 DAYS

Part 1

In Lenin's New Economic Policy, a compromise with capitalism, there are no hints of private enterprise, no nod toward market mechanisms beyond the proposed plan for giving decentralized factories some control over their profits.

Mr Gorbachev's reference in Leningrad to private plots turns out to mean allotments for urban dwellers rather than an expansion of peasant initiative on collective farms.

Central state control, in other words, is not in question. Even his forceful attempt to make the present hugely

Sri Lanka crisis in expert hands

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

The first moves towards a joint Indo-Sri Lankan settlement of the ethnic strife in Sri Lanka began this weekend with the opening of expert level talks in Delhi.

A Sri Lankan team, led by Mr Hector Jayewardene, a lawyer and brother of the Sri Lankan President, Mr Junius Jayewardene, spent several hours with an Indian team led by the country's Attorney General, Mr K. Parasaram.

Though no official announcement about the content of the talks was made, it is plain that they are a follow up to the negotiations which took place in Delhi recently between Mr Jayewardene and the Indian Prime Minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi.

They are trying to find ways of satisfying Tamil aspirations for autonomy within a unitary system of government for the island republic.

Mr Gandhi himself made it clear after President Jayewardene's visit that he did not envisage any federal solution to

Sri Lanka's problems, so this week's talks will be aimed at finding solutions to the legal and constitutional conundrum that both sides can agree upon.

About a 100 Tamil terrorists are believed to have been killed or injured when the Sri Lanka security forces stormed a rebel camp at Mannar in the north-east of Sri Lanka at the weekend (a correspondent writes).



President Jayewardene: Hopes for Delhi talks.

A longer view of the weather

From Alan McGregor
Geneva

Reliable weather forecasting for six to seven days ahead, together with "useful guidance" for nine days ahead, will become available in the near future, according to the World Meteorological Organization.

This is the main result of the "Global Experiment" involving five geostationary satellites, two polar orbiting satellite systems plus observations from existing facilities and from aircraft, balloons, ships and drifting buoys.

The data obtained, which has taken six years to analyse, provides a new basis for forecasting until the end of the century.

In addition scientists believe the range of useful forecasts can be extended up to about 14 days. They regard this as "probably" the limit of deterministic predictability set by the random nature of atmospheric fluctuations.

Managua Mass fails to rally opposition

From Alan Tomlinson
Managua

An open-air Mass here which opponents of the Somoza Government had hoped to turn into a massive political demonstration was attended by only 20,000 people on Saturday.

The opposition newspaper *La Prensa* and the rebel radio station of the Nicaraguan Democratic Force, the largest group of anti-Somoza Contras, had hoped for a turnout of 200,000.

The Mass marked the

elevation of the Archbishop of Managua, Mgr Miguel Obando y Bravo, to cardinal. He has become the leading symbol of opposition to the left-wing Nicaraguan Government.

He has accused it of heading towards totalitarianism, called for dialogue with the Contras who are trying to overthrow the regime with American help, and criticized the introduction of obligatory military service to fight against the rebels. He also chose to celebrate his first Mass as cardinal in Miami on

Thursday among Nicaraguan exiles, including Contra leaders. He was met at Managua airport on Friday night by several thousand supporters who sang religious songs and threw stones at the police. They responded by spraying the crowd with water-cannon.

Large crowds cheered the cardinal's car on its way to the church but the attendance at the open-air Mass was a clearly a disappointment in a country which is 95 per cent Roman Catholic.

Air strikes on Iran suspended by Iraq

Baghdad (Reuters) - Iraq said it stopped air and missile strikes on Iranian cities yesterday despite an overnight explosion in Baghdad, apparently caused by an Iranian missile.

The Information Minister, Mr Latif Nassif al-Jassem, said the attacks stopped at 8 am local time under a 15-day moratorium announced by President Saddam Hussein on Friday.

The President said he wanted to give Iran a chance to consider peace, but warned that Baghdad would strike again if Iran attacked or prepared to attack Iraq, or if it rejected his peace initiative.

Welsh driver shot in Italy

A Welsh lorry driver was recovering in hospital in Naples after being shot in the face as he slept in the cab of his vehicle. Mr Roy Hope, of Buckley, Chwyd, was expected to undergo surgery.

The Foreign Office in London said it could not confirm reports that the shooting may have been in retaliation for the deaths of 33 people, mostly Italians, before the European Cup Final in Brussels.

Venus landing

Moscow (Reuters) - A second Soviet space module has landed on Venus with scientific and communications instruments, Tass reported. It was later taking geological samples with drilling equipment.

Mengele clue

Sao Paulo (Reuters) - Tests have confirmed that handwriting in letters and notes written by a man who drowned six years ago near here is that of the Nazi war criminal Josef Mengele, Sao Paulo's police chief said.

Afghan claim

Islamabad (Reuters) - About 140 people were killed when a rebel bomb exploded wrecked a large building in Mazar-i-Sharif in northern Afghanistan, on June 5, guerrilla sources claimed. They said most of those killed were members of the ruling Communist Party.

Britons held

Limasol, Cyprus (Reuters) - Police here arrested two men wanted for questioning about a robbery in Newcastle upon Tyne earlier this year. Mr Michael David Dillon, aged 31, and Mr Eric Boyd, 27, both unemployed, are being held pending extradition, a statement said.

Murder apology

Madrid - The so-called death squads who have specialized in murdering ETA leaders sheltering in south-west France apologized for shooting dead two gypsy scrap merchants by mistake in a bar near Biarritz.

Tremor panic

Copenhagen - A moderate tremor, measuring 4.5 on the open-ended Richter scale hit southern Sweden and the north-east of the Danish Baltic island of Zealand, on which Copenhagen is situated, early on Saturday, causing panic but no casualties.

Court of Appeal

Child's future earnings award

Mitchell v Liverpool Area Health Authority (Teaching)

Before Lord Justice Fox, Lord Justice Purchas and Lord Justice Balcombe

[Judgment delivered June 13]

The loss of future earnings of a child aged two was not too speculative to assess.

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Law Report June 17 1985

Inferring civil remedy

Rickless and Others v United Artists Corporation and Others

The Dramatic and Musical Performers' Protection Act 1958 was passed primarily to protect the economic interests of performers, so that to construe the Act as ceasing to apply after the performer was dead would be to frustrate and not fulfil its purpose. Thus, unless the Act conferred civil remedies as well as imposing criminal sanctions the protection of the performer was inadequate. Such civil remedies including a right to apply for an injunction to restrain potential criminal actions.

Mr Justice Hobbhouse so held in the Queen's Bench Division on May 24 giving judgment for the plaintiffs, the executors of Peter Sellers and the assignees of any relevant rights of action of two loan out companies against the defendants for their use of out-takes and clips from five *Pink Panther* films in the making of the *Trial of the Pink Panther*. Judgment in the sum of US \$1m was adequate compensation for the court's refusal to award injunctions.

MR JUSTICE HOBHOUSE said that section 2 of the Act provided that in stated circumstances a person "is guilty of an offence" if he "uses or causes to be used any film or tape recording of a performance of a dramatic or musical work in which the plaintiff is or has been a performer" for the purpose of "obtaining or attempting to obtain any financial advantage or other benefit".

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Ending car allowance

Keir and Another v Hereford & Worcester County Council

A county council was not entitled unilaterally and without notice to withdraw essential car user allowances from employees who, by their written terms and conditions of employment, had been entitled to those allowances.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice May, Lord Justice Slade and Lord Justice Lloyd) so held unanimously in a reserved judgment on May 23 dismissing an appeal by the defendant county council against the decision of Mr Justice Comyn, who had held that

two plaintiff employees were entitled to damages for the council's breach of contract.

LORD JUSTICE SLADE said that the council's obligation to pay the allowance was capable of being discharged, but only by agreement of the parties or because the nature of the employees' duty changed so that they were no longer essential users, in which case the allowance could be withdrawn by proper notice, or because the council had given proper notice to terminate the contract of employment. But no such notices had been given here.

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Queen's Bench Division

Prisoner's welfare report should be shown to him

Regina v Board of Visitors of Wandsworth Prison, Ex parte Raymond

It was desirable in the interests of justice being seen to be done that, at a disciplinary hearing before a board of visitors, a prisoner should be shown a welfare report prepared upon him even though he had not specifically requested to see it.

MR JUSTICE WEBSTER said that, at the hearing before the board it would undoubtedly have been better had the applicant been shown a copy of the welfare report which had been prepared upon him, and which was always important that to

the greatest possible extent justice should be seen to be done even at the expense of going further than was strictly required by the principles of fairness. The failure to provide the applicant with a copy of the document, even though he had not, as his Lordship found, asked to see it, was on the borderline between what might be a breach of the rules of natural justice on the one hand, and the exercise of a lawful discretion on the other.

It was not appropriate to lay down a hard and fast rule, because there might be circumstances in which it might be justifiable to withhold such a document from a prisoner. In such circumstances the board would be obliged to take the material withheld into account to the maximum possible extent in the prisoner's favour.

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Clean-break provisions

Morris v Morris

A termination date for a periodical payments order imposed under the "clean break" provisions of the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984 should only be imposed after consideration of whether the recipient would be able to adjust to the termination without undue hardship. It was a wrong application of the provisions to vary such an order by fixing a termination date so as to bring to an end an acrimonious dispute between a former husband and wife.

Lord Justice May, sitting with Sir Rousley Curran-Bruce in the Court of Appeal on June 10, so held in allowing an appeal by the former wife from a Judgment of Judge Cles C.C. varying a monthly periodical payments order by

making it terminate either on the former husband's dying or on his remarriage or on his attaining the age of 65.

HIS LORDSHIP said that, in applying the clean-break provisions, distinction was to be made between the making of a first order after a decree and an application to vary an original order.

Here the parties were divorced in 1977 after 24 years of marriage; it was not appropriate to vary the original order by fixing a termination date. The judge had erred in seeking to exercise his powers given by section 31(7)(a) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 as substituted by section 6(3) of the 1984 Act.

OUR SIDE OF THE STORY

are reported
to him

visions

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- Harmonic
- Galleries ■ Museums
- Textiles and Speke Halls
- Liverpool Airport
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- Planning ■ Roads & Bridges
- Protecting the Environment
- Waste Disposal
- Economic Development.

A black and white portrait of a man with a full beard and mustache. He is wearing a dark suit jacket, a light-colored shirt, and a dark tie. The image is framed by a thick black border.

“The Government proposals to break these linkages would be detrimental and, in some cases lead to permanent losses as a result of complex cross-boundary

Growing concern has been expressed in all quarters about the damaging effects of re-organisation to the County:

Merseyside County Council
THE VOICE OF REASON FOR MERSEYSIDE

This advertisement is published by
Merseyside Economic Development Company Ltd

SPECTRUM

Broadway interval – or last act?

Rodney Tyler examines the crisis of soaring costs and falling audiences that is threatening to destroy theatre in New York

Nobody knows if the current decline of Broadway Theatre is episode 13 of a long running saga or the last act of a Greek tragedy. But one thing is certain – to use the local vernacular: a comedy it ain't.

The latest twists in the continuing story of everyday New York theatre folk do indeed make grim drama. Broadway has just concluded its worst season for 12 years. On every count – attendance, theatre occupancy, even box office – the figures are down.

So scarce is new material (the lowest number of new shows this century) that, for the first time in 36 years, three major categories were dropped from the recent Tony awards for lack of competitive entries.

But potentially most crippling of all is the intention, announced by President Reagan as the season closed, of withdrawing the tax concession which enables companies to claim theatre tickets as a legitimate entertainment expense.

6 Not much change out of £200 for two on Broadway?

After tourist sales – many of which are at discount prices – tax deductible purchases are the highest single group. To lose even a small percentage of them could be disastrous, especially since prices have risen so drastically in recent years as to be almost unaffordable to many private individuals – except as a rare luxury.

The high cost of tickets, coupled with the success of British plays and musicals on Broadway, has done much to persuade many Americans that it is "cheaper" to go to London's West End for a night out at the theatre – you can also see any one of 10 original Broadway shows. Most major airlines now run special package tours – short breaks in London with two or three theatre visits thrown in. If you discount the cost of the transatlantic flight, the deal is ridiculously cheap by comparison – more so when you take into account New Yorkers' wages.

A couple with children living in New Jersey who wanted good seats for a Broadway musical (up to \$47.50 each) would not get much change out of £200 after they had paid for babysitting, parking, and a reasonable dinner for two after the show.

TWA's eight-day trip to London guarantees them two theatres, hotel and other tours for £200 each. British Airways' six-night "London Showtime" package throws in three theatres, one nightclub, free London Transport and a hotel for £150 each. And its "Showtime Special" guarantees *Cats* and *Starlight Express* with hotels and dinner before each show for £260.

The last thing the Broadway producers want is to make a drama out of this crisis. "Two big hits and we'd be in the clear," they say with all the optimism of men used to mistaking the dark. Nevertheless the plot of the last few years can be interpreted as consisting largely of the principal characters – Greed, Avarice, Envy and Malice – hurling abuse at each other while a few make fortunes and the rest slide into graceless poverty. More recently they have turned on the audience, charging them enormous sums to get in and then blaming them for not turning up in sufficient numbers to keep the show on the road.

Not even the British have escaped their wrath, principally because nearly a quarter of the current productions on Broadway come from this side of the Atlantic. The trouble with people like Tom Stoppard and the ubiquitous Andrew Lloyd Webber, it is felt, is that they are overplayed, over-treasured and over here.

Yet if you examine the relative production costs in London and New York, you can see immediately why the lights started going out on the Great White Way. Ironically it is the country free of unreasonable union wage demands and restrictive practices which could learn from one notoriously plagued by them.

Last year, for example, in the wake of his success in *Gandhi*, Ben Kingsley played a six-week engagement in the one-man show *Keen* in New York. To all intents and purposes it was the identical show to the one he had played in London the year before, in an identical theatre, for an identical season.

6 The roots are in high salaries and unionized jobs?

The cost in New York – just over £100,000 – was five times the British. The top ticket price in London was £9; in America £23.

Wages and cost of living rates do vary between the two cities – New York is roughly 30 per cent more expensive to live in, but salaries are around 50 per cent higher.

But neither this, higher advertising rates, higher theatre costs nor higher property taxes can fully account for the difference. The real roots of the problem are higher salaries, more unionized jobs and less flexible work rules.

The minimum salary for an actor in New York was £430 a week at the time – three and a half times the West End rate. Ben Kingsley's salary, with the added cachet of *Gandhi*'s Oscars and with added percentages of the gross was £8,800 a week – compared

to £2,100 with added percentages in London.

The stage manager of *Keen* in London made just over £200 a week – his New York counterpart made just over £700. Carpenters were twice as expensive: £230 to £460. The press agent in New York was paid £650 a week – in London it was £150.

Nor is it just a matter of salaries. Ben Kingsley's wig required attention for one hour a day and in London a man was paid £100 a week to do it as one of a number of theatrical contracts. In New York, union rules stipulate that the wig tender must be paid the full weekly rate, no matter how many hours he is required. In this case Mr Joseph Del Corso was paid £350 a week for his one hour a day.

Many more theatre jobs in New York involve being paid "for doing nothing" than in London and, almost as a corollary of that, many more jobs in New York are unionized. Such rules were principally responsible for the set installation costing £1,100 in London – against £7,000 in New York. In London Mr Kingsley did not have an understudy; in New York a man was paid £560 a week not to turn up at the theatre and not to learn the lines.

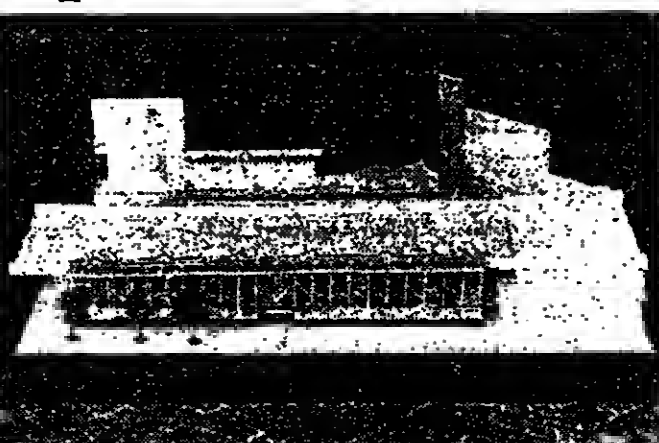
Many other factors determine the higher costs in New York – but these are the principal ones. They made *Cats* cost £3.75 million to stage in New York – against £750,000 in London. This money will cause *Singing In The Rain* to open in New

A picture palace for celluloid dreams

Moving images dominate most people's lives and grip their imaginations. By the age of 20 most young adults will have spent two years glued to the television watching, among other things, many old films originally made for the cinema. Yet until now there has been no national museum to preserve these and to further interest in today's technology.

This will be remedied next Monday when celebrations mark the birth of the £7 million Museum of Moving Image to be built on London's South Bank will be hosted by Lady Howe, wife of Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

The contractors, moved on to the site, beneath the approach to Waterloo Bridge and next to the existing National Film Theatre, earlier this month, but the scheme, the brainchild of Leslie Hardcastle, the NFI's controller, and David Francis, curator of the National Film Archive, has been in the planning stage for five years. This will be no ordinary museum, more an "action station" to invite experience and participation, says Anthony Smith, the dynamic director of the British Film Institute which



An "action station" for the film arts on the South Bank: Bryan Avery's model for the Museum of the Moving Image.

is behind the plan. A later phase for a restaurant and expansion of the NFI's facilities overlooking the riverside walkway beneath the bridge, and for which planning permission has been given, will eventually sandwich the theatre between new developments.

Even though cinema attendances have declined dramatically from a high of 1,635 million a year in 1946 – when almost half the population would visit the cinema in any one week – to a current low of about 55 million – the museum must be seen as a significant act of faith during British Film Year.

Britain remains one of the world's great production centres for films and television, and the capital is at the heart of that industry as the base for four of its television channels, three film schools, a large annual festival, an annual international market and a thriving video industry.

All these different aspects will be featured in the museum's 20 sections; about 12 per cent of the space will be devoted to constantly changing exhibitions. When it opens in December 1987, it will cater for up to a million visitors a year even though it will be run commercially – open up to 12 hours a

day, seven days a week – to break even with just 400,000 visitors paying an entrance charge of about £2.

Lady Howe is chairman of an appeal which has raised £6 million so far entirely from private sponsorship and public donations. Sir Yue-Kong Pao, the Hong Kong businessman, has given £300,000 towards the project as a personal gift to London. John Paul Getty Junior, who last week promised the National Gallery £50 million, is contributing an undisclosed sum – but to excess of £1 million – because of his interest in film.

Bryan Avery, the museum's architect, has spent a considerable time locked in discussion with Hardcastle and Francis to ensure the operational and functional aspects of the new building are right. Hardcastle says: "Many of the museum keepers we spoke to said that architecturally their buildings were 'fighting them' in terms of day-to-day running."

It will have a "refined Beaubourg" high-tech feel to it, with lots of steel and glass and the underside of the concrete bridge for a roof. Passers-by will be able to see moving images projected by two-way screens on its external walls, and lasers and neon will feature prominently.

Discussions are still under way with planners and traffic engineers for a tower projecting above the bridge parapet to act as a beacon inviting people in and to mirror the pylon on the roof of the Hayward Gallery nearby.

The permanent displays will be areas devoted to cinematographies, television and video, and future images in fibre optics and lasers. Pre-cinema, from the Javanese shadow plays performed 5,000 years ago onwards; the Great Innovators; Film and TV as Political Forces; the Industry; Hollywood Dream Factory; John Wayne and Cuban Revolutionary Cinema; among others, have their place.

Everything that can be will be accessible and responsive. Many of the exhibits will be activated by the visitor, and guides will be on hand to demonstrate how things work. It has all been considered to meticulous detail, from the entry pay desks in the form of lens shutters, to the lavatory cubicles decorated as sets from, for example, *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

The museum looks like becoming an adventure playground for adults and school parties alike, and in this respect it takes on a different dimension for the three million annual visitors to the South Bank's normally grim art complex, including those coming to see the 2,000 films shown each year at the National Film Theatre.

For the museum will draw most of its public during parts of the day and at weekends when an area of London which should be always alive with people enjoying its cultural facilities and the River Thames is normally as depressing as the grey concrete hulkers which until now have cast their gloom exclusively. Not only will the new museum be the world's first of its kind but it will also make an important contribution to the life of a neglected part of the capital.

Charles Knevitt

The Medici letters, yours at a slip

Geraldine Norman reports on the sale of a Hampstead treasure chest

Christie's and Sotheby's make a very good living from draping enough scholarship around works of art – and other items – to spark the imagination of rich collectors. On the banana skin principle, it is fun to detect little slips in the scholarship. With the Zurich sale of the archive of Medici letters scheduled for June 27, Christie's have outdone themselves. The mistakes in their catalogue are guaranteed to keep students muddled for decades to come.

The sale is being run by Mr Robson Lowe, of Christie's stamp department. It takes place in Zurich but the letters are on view in London this week.

The Medici were the most influential patrons of art and literature of the Renaissance. Christie's have on their staff a former assistant of Bernard Berenson, the American scholar who put the Italian Renaissance on the 20th century map. Willy Mostyn-Owen, where have you been? Obviously not in the firm's stamp department. For the archive of Medici letters is being split up and sold as postal history.

It is horrible that people should part with such things in such a way", says Dr Daniel Waley, keeper of manuscripts at the British Library. "The letters' historical interest is pretty nearly lost. If they are kept together you can learn more about the family, as well as how matters of state and commerce were conducted in the 16th century."

For the Getty Foundation in Malibu, California, actions speak louder than words. Its new art historical institute has paid for the entire archive of letters, some 1,400 in all, to be microfilmed. The lot number from Christie's catalogue is recorded on each microfilm, so that the catalogue itself can act as an index for students in search of relevant letters. That brings us back to square one: a few historical errors.

6 Horrible way to sell them?

Most of the 850 letters in the June 27 sale – the rest are to be included in a second sale – are addressed to three minor members of the Medici family, Raffaele (1477-1555) and two slightly later brothers, called Giulio and Averardo. Mr Robson Lowe admits his failure to identify clearly who these brothers were but suggests they may have been the sons of Raffaele. Raffaele's great-grandfather was the brother of Giulio and Averardo's great-grandfather was a pretty remote, cousinly relationship.

The finest error is to credit Lorenzo the Magnificent's only brother, Giuliano, with four legitimate children who he never married. The four children belonged to another Giuliano dei Medici, a very distant cousin.

The catalogue goes on to muddy the waters by providing the various characters in the letters with brothers and fathers on the grounds that they address each other as such. Like monks and trade unionists, the Medici used the terms "brother" and "father" in an affectionate rather than genealogical sense.

Nevertheless, the letters are fascinating. Raffaele had banking and trading interests all over Europe and appears to have lost our own King Henry VIII money to deck himself out in the Field of the Cloth of Gold. Giulio was a trusted commander in the army of the Cosimo I who united Tuscany and who writes to him constantly about fortifications, food, teaching the troops to use gunpowder, and so on. Averardo, meanwhile, was Florentine ambassador at various courts and there are letters concerning political negotiations.

The existence of the archive was previously unknown. Mr Robson Lowe says that it belongs to a nobleman who lives in Hampstead but has ancestral homes in Paris and Vienna. The same man owned the remarkable archives of three Italian merchant families – the Corsini, the Venturini and the Angiolini – which were sold last year for a total of £142,708.

These were all contained in the same oak box which was sorted out by the auctioneers. Mr Robson Lowe was told that an

ancestor of the nobleman collected archival material. The Medici archive was handed over at a later date, merely with the instruction: "Do your best with this."

The sale of the Corsini correspondence was the biggest event for years for postal history, a collecting field which has burgeoned in the last 20 years. Each country has its own keen collectors and magicians proliferate. Early letters, however, are generally tucked away in archives or libraries and the collectors can't get their hands on them.

The Corsini letters were of extraordinary interest to British collectors since they predated the fire of London which destroyed nearly all the nation's paperwork. The Corsini were the leading Italian merchants in London; the correspondence was sent home with a family corpse for burial in Florence, thus escaping the flames.

While collectors and dealers were a little unimpressed by the volume of the Corsini archive, fearing that it might flood the market, its sale appears to have created a new generation of collectors who are now keenly interested in the Medici material. There is more than a possibility that these sales will make so much money that other ancient families will consider offering their own archives.

Historians and archivists may blench at the prospect, but dealers in postal history describe it as an "exciting possibility". There can, however, be many a slip 'twixt the cup and the lip. Mr Robson Lowe had not looked on his letters as manuscripts – which require an export license in order to leave the country for sale – until reminded by me. He says that he has been promised a license by midday today. We'll see!



Dear Sir: Cosimo I, an outstanding ruler of Tuscany

A dynasty of power

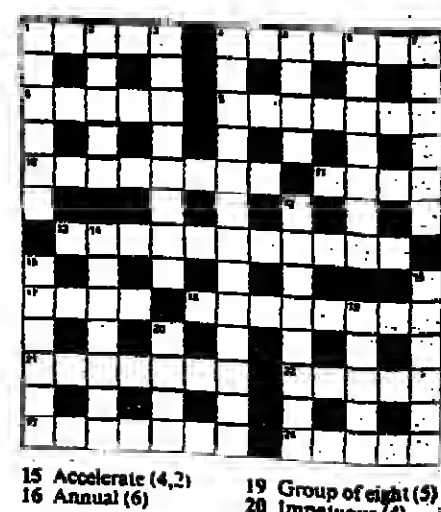
The Medici family ruled in Florence, with short intermissions, from the 15th century to the 18th. From the little city on the banks of the Arno, they presided over the birth of Western capitalism and the European renaissance, or re-birth, of art and literature after the Middle Ages. The family carried its passion for the arts to Rome with the appointment of the Medici Pope Leo X (1475-1521) and Catherine de Medici, while Henry II of France demonstrated the family gift for political intrigue in northern Europe.

Giovanni de Medici (1360-1429) founded the family fortunes by establishing an international banking and trading empire. His son Cosimo (1389-1464) became the ruler of Florence and the patron of great artists such as Donatello and Chiberti, while presiding over the revival of Plato's philosophy. The finest flowering of the Florentine Renaissance came with Lorenzo the Magnificent (1449-1492), a poet in his own right and the patron of Michelangelo.

Lorenzo's most forceful son, Giovanni, a friend of Raphael, became Pope Leo X. The next outstanding ruler of Florence was Cosimo I (1519-1574). With the aid of the Emperor Charles V, he annexed the rest of Tuscany and his son Francesco I (1541-1587) obtained the title of Grand Duke of Tuscany.

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 672)

- ACROSS
- Accumulated store (5)
 - Friend (7)
 - Cornet (5)
 - Club foot (7)
 - By chance (8)
 - Young salmon (4)
 - Tasty morsel (5,6)
 - Curry (4)
 - Evil place (8)
 - Poster (7)
 - Provide (5)
 - Large jug (7)
 - Dapper (5)
- DOWN
- Desiring food (6)
 - Decorate (5)
 - Disregard (8)
 - Chisel (6,7)
 - Amoy (4)
 - Change (7)
 - Sheen (6)
 - Lin keeper (8)
 - Reject (7)



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MONDAY PAGE

lici letters
at a slip
reports on the
treasure chest

ancestors of the
lected archival
Media archive was
at a later date, more
instruction. "Do you
this?"

The sale of the
correspondence was
the first of a series
has been donated to
Each country has its
literature. Early letters
are generally tucked
into the folders or
collections can't get
on them.

There are several
Mr. P. W. Jones has
been in the library
which have been
the collection of the
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the collection of the

Dear Sir, I am
pleased to hear that
you are interested in
the collection of the
the collection of the
the collection of the

A dynasty
of power

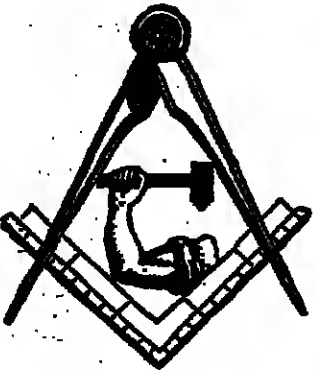
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Brothers under the skin



In many ways a
mirror image of
their male
counterparts,
there are now 42
lodges of women
freemasons. As
the movement

faces new criticism, Lee Rodwell
reports on this exclusively female group

From the outside 68 Great
Cumberland Place, London,
looks no different from the
other buildings in this area of
the West End. It could be a
small hotel, or office accommo-
dation - for accountants or
salesmen. Inside, however,
there are a few surprises.

On the ground floor, for
instance, are two almost iden-
tical rooms. The walls of these
two "temples" are hung with
banners bearing names like
Stability Lodge, Lodge Fidelity,
Lodge Strength. Some of the
chairs, neatly arranged around
the edges of the black and white
checkered carpet, are elaborately
carved with special sym-
bols, indicating that they are to
be occupied by people of a
certain rank.

One symbol that recurs - in
both furniture and furnishings -
is that of the set-square and
compasses: the sign of the
Freemasons. To most people
the term "freemasonry" evokes
the image of an all-male
brotherhood. Yet no man has
ever practised the Mason's
Craft in either of these temples.

**'We learn our
lines better
than the men'**

For members of the Hon-
ourable Fraternity of Ancient Free-
masonry - an exclusively female
movement.

Although the Honourable
Fraternity cannot claim the
same antiquity as the men's
movement, evolving as it did in
1913 (the first Grand Master
was one Elizabeth Boswell-
Merrill), it is in many ways a
mirror image of it.

Women masons travel to
lodge meetings with dark
briefcases containing their
masonic aprons and their
evening dress ("nothing fancy,
just a long black skirt and white
blouse"), they carry out iden-
tical rituals and ceremonies
("only we learn our lines better
than some of the men - they
allow script"), they round off
the evening with a formal
dinner.

Why does she live in London
since 1975. She bought her pretty
mews cottage behind Knightsbridge
the following year. The stiffly
formal drawing room, with
sofas at right angles, shiny grand
piano, and framed letters and
photographs of
Brahms, Mahler and Debussy
belongs to someone seriously
committed to the world of music.

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committed to the world of music.

It became clear to me that what
Berlin needed was a dramatic
soprano, and that I was being
offered that dramatic repertoire.
I told them that I was sure that
what was needed there, but not at
all sure it was what I should be
doing. I didn't want to plan
miles three or four years ahead
that would then be unsuitable for
me. I also knew that real vocal
progress could only be achieved
within the confines of an opera
house. She withdrew from opera
for five years and came to London
to learn to sing a different
repertoire.

"It was a difficult decision to
make in your 20s and initially
meant quite a cut in income.
But it wasn't courage that dic-
tated it - it was survival: quite
a different approach."

Yet although there are so
many similarities - the women
even call each other "Brother"
rather than "Sister" - the mco
do not acknowledge the move-
ment officially. However,
would-be women masons must
get their husbands' agreement
before they are considered for
membership and since many of
the women who belong to the
Honourable Fraternity are those
whose husbands are masons too,
a degree of acceptance, if not
approval, must exist.

The original women Free-
masons tended to be ladies of
leisure, certainly well-to-do and
possibly titled. These days the
membership is less rarified and
includes women from all walks
of life.

Religion or race is no bar
either - the condition of entry
which simply demands belief in
a "Supreme Being" means that
there are Jewish and Muslim
masons too. However, a Metho-
dist report published last week
cast doubt on whether a
Christian could be a Freemason
without compromising his or
her religious beliefs.

The annual membership fee
is £30. New recruits have to pay
£75 for the first year, women
pay for their dinners and are
also expected to give donations
to charity. Women are not
invited to join - they must
make the first approach and
find existing members to
propose and second them. The
minimum age for entry is 21
unless your mother is a mason,
in which case you may join at
18.

Although there are grand-
mothers, mothers and daughters
in the movement, the majority
of the membership tends to be
older rather than younger. As
one woman mason put it:
"Masonry tends to attract
women whose children have
reached their teens, who don't
need so much looking after".

Masonry also often attracts
women who are in their middle
50s, possibly nearing retirement
age, who are looking for an
interest which can grow to fill
the gap that will, eventually,
be created in their lives when
they leave work.

At present there are about
2,000 members belonging to 42
Craft Lodges spread widely



Women finding fellowship: Sheila Norden, Bessie Shaw, Edith Saunders and Stella Lucas

across London and the South-
east but also to be found as far
off as Lancashire, Yorkshire
and the Isle of Man.

The hierarchy within each
Lodge is the same as within the
male counterparts: novices are

mother Lodge (the Lodge to
which they were first initiated
into masonry). They might even
aspire to a rank in the Grand
Lodge itself.

The Lodges elect a new
Master each year - the outgoing
Master being given the title
Immediate Past Master. It is
customary for the women who
hold the rank of Senior
Warden to be elected Master,
with the Junior Warden becom-
ing the Senior and so on. Other
officers include the Director of
Ceremonies and her Assistant
Director, a Chaplain, a Senior
and Junior Deacon, an Inner
Guard (who guards the door of
the Lodge on the inside and
makes sure only Freemasons en-
ter), a Tyler (who guards the
door from the outside), a
Treasurer, a Secretary, an
Almoner and a Steward.

Entered Apprentices. They are
then passed as Fellow Craft
Masons and then raised as
Master Masons. If they want to
climb further, women can then
go for office within their Lodge,
eventually, perhaps, becoming
Worshipful Master of the

How old is
freemasonry?
In the past
many masons
claimed great
antiquity for
the craft, be-
lieving that the
movement's history went back
thousands of years. Some
suggested that the Druids were
the ancestors of the Brother-
hood, others that it grew out of
the religion of ancient Egypt.

Masonry as practised today
probably goes back a mere
three centuries, although many
of the rituals themselves are
based on a number of ancient
cults and religions. According
to Stephen Knight, who wrote
The Brotherhood, a contro-
versial book about the free-
masons, some of these, like the
Isis - Osiris myth, date back
to the dawn of history.

Today the main rituals
involve the legend of King
Solomon's Temple and the
murder of Hiram Abiff, allego-
rized the principal architect of
the Temple, for refusing to
reveal masonic secrets.

The Grand Lodge of
England was founded in 1717.
By this time the medieval

One mason explained: "You
start out by being the Steward.
You watch the ceremonies and
your job is just to go round and
take the collection for charity.
When it comes to the time to
take higher office you know
what you should be doing as
you've seen it all happen several
times".

Since women are not allowed
into the all-male Lodges -
masons themselves or not - one
has to take the women's word
that the rituals and ceremonies
(which they have all sworn oaths
never to reveal) are
identical. The regalia certainly
is. Since there is no shop selling
regalia for women they buy
what they need from the shop
opposite Freemasons' Hall in
Holborn which supplies masonic
regalia to male masons.

What draws women to
freemasonry? I asked four
leading masons: Miss Edith
Saunders, Assistant Grand
Master, Mrs Stella Lucas, a
Grand Lodge Officer, Mrs
Bessie Shaw, Grand Chaplain,
and Mrs Sheila Norden, Grand
Director of Ceremonies.

Miss Edith Saunders has been
in the Brotherhood for 50 years
and since the recent death of
Grace Bilant, who was Grand
Master for 16 years, is the most
senior woman mason in Lon-
don. She said: "We are not a
secret society - how can we be,
when people know about us. We
are just a society with secrets".

She admits, like many
women masons, that curiosity
led to her original involvement.
"I used to see a neighbour of
mine going out with her little
case. I was curious".

Other women had admired
the effect masonry had had on
their menfolk and were pleased
to discover it was something
women could do too. Mrs
Bessie Shaw said: "My husband
was really rather unassuming
but being a Mason did so much
for his confidence. I knew that
there was a ladies' freemasonry
but for a while I was scared to
approach them. But when I did
I was made very welcome".

Curiosity, a feeling that
what's good for the gender
might be good for the goose.

perhaps even the lure of the
mysticism and the secret rituals
- all these things may draw
women into the Brotherhood.
But the women insist that it is
not about jobs for the girls. It
was not set up to act as a networking
movement.

Mrs Shaw suggested it was
rather like joining the Girl
Guides. "You learn a lot from
the discipline needed for the
ceremonies. You can get a great
sense of achievement as you
progress. Certain people have

**'Freemasonry is
based on the
highest ideals'**

reached pinnacles of success in
the fraternity which they might
never otherwise have hoped to
do."

Miss Saunders said: "The
fellowship is very great. Every-
time you enter a Lodge you get
a feeling of strength, integrity,
friendship." Others mentioned
a sense of peace. "A lodge is like
a haven and a home", Mrs
Lucas said. "Young people are
always saying they are bored. I
hear the word so often I could
scream. In this building boredom
doesn't exist".

Like their male counterparts,
the women stress the amount of
fund-raising they do for charity.
According to Miss Saunders:
"This fraternity has given more
to the Westminster Hospi-
tal, Bone Marrow Appeal than
anyone else".

"Freemasonry is based on the
highest ideals, perhaps we might
not always live up to those
ideals, but we do as far as
possible".

Mrs Norden agreed. "We've
all been on charity committees,
but this is different. You can get
friendship by joining a golf club,
but this has a bit extra. To do
justice, to love mercy and to
walk humbly with thy god - the
motto of one Lodge - that's
what masonry means to me."

E for Effort but could try harder

Any parent who has sat alone of
an evening struggling with her
daughter's essay on the 1832
Reform Act while the said
daughter is watching *The Tube*
will sympathize with The
Socialist Educational Associa-
tion, which considers that
homework is a waste of time.

It certainly takes up too
much time; not just the actual
doing or not doing of it but the
teagony wrangles that take place
beforehand as parent insists
that homework must be com-
pleted before entire family is
allowed to visit Theme Park or
grandmother or Springsteen
concert, and child counter-
claims that since vital textbook
has magically disappeared from
the schoolbag, homework must
cede to be done during playtime
on Monday morning.

It also makes the school day
longer than the working one. It
does seem rather daft that
whereas the average executive
starts work at 10 am, takes a
two-hour luncheon break and packs
up for the day at 5.30, his
children must be at their desks
at 8.50 am and then, after a
relentless day's learning, are
expected to tackle three subjects
a night at home.

Nevertheless, homework is a
necessary exercise, in every
sense of the word, in coming to
grips with the world; for what it
teaches is that when the chips
are down you are on your own
and expected to deliver.

The 12-year-old who can turn
out three pages on "A day in the
life of a £1 coin" for his English
teacher, while his mother is
singing along with Barry Mani-
low, his father is putting up a
room-divider with his electric
drill and his sister is treading on
the cat, is learning vital lessons
in concentration. Years later,
when he's a captain of industry,
he will be able to produce
brilliant flow-charts no days
when someone in the next office
is noisily celebrating a birthday
and someone else keeps coming
to fix the air-conditioning.

The Socialist Educational
Association is concerned that
homework presents difficulties
for students who do not have
the facilities for it - a desk in a
hushed, book-lined study, a
family who tippy-toe around
the house whispering "Shush,
Ferdinand's trying to do his
French Unesees". Has it ever
made a study of children who
do have these facilities? If so, it
will have noticed that the
thoughtfully-situated desk in
the adequately-heated study is
unused while the homeworker
is sprawled on his stomach in
the draughtiest part of the
kitchen, a radio blaring out the
Top Twenty clamped close to
his ribcage.

Scarcely parents accept this
state of affairs now just as they
accept that new babies must
learn to sleep amid the usual
household racket. The strain of
dealing with an occasionally
wakeful baby is nothing com-
pared to that of keeping
everyone quiet all the time.

Of course, learning how to
concentrate in a world of noisy
distractions has its difficulties.
A friend of mine, a journalist
famed for producing yards of
copy from a crowded and
cluttered office where feature
writers writhed and rowed and
the telephones shrilled day and
night, decided to write a novel.

Approaching this subject with



PENNY
PERRICK

some awe, she booked herself
into the Cold Research Centre,
reckoning that living in com-
plete isolation while her germs
were analysed was the next best
thing to a stint in a Carmelite
convent. There in a pleasant
and peaceful bedroom in the
equally peaceful countryside,
she was sure she could produce
a 20th-century rival to *War and
Peace*. In fact, the only ideas
that came to her were oew
ways of putting on her eyesha-
dow. The tranquillity so un-
nerved her that she spent most
of the day making-up her face,
even though she wasn't going to
see anyone.

What I should like to know
about homework is how many
schoolchildren actually do it
and how many get by quite
nicely by copying their friends',
or lying their way through
complicated rignaroles about
attending great-aunts' funerals;
out to mention puppies chomp-
ing their way through brilliant
translations of Catullus that,
subsequently, never found their
way to school.

I fear that I belonged to the
latter group. Maybe I was
already developing that rat-like
cunning which the late and
lovely, Nicholas Tomlin swore
was the one essential journal-
istic attribute. But homework,
like the appointment in Samara,
is unavoidable. Several decades
on, I became involved in my
childrens' homework with a
dedication that would have
surprised my own teachers.
Now they're at 21, age when
their homework is much too
difficult for me. I lead a hand
with my nieces' "the exasper-
ated headmistress" who once
told me that I was a fool if I
thought I could avoid home-
work for ever has been proved
absolutely right.

Typification has gone too far.
After the labelling of Yuppies,
Yuppies, Yuppies and Baby
Boomers, I have come across a
new target-group, in an adver-
tisement for a cable television
network: Yuppies Puppies.
YPs are the children of Baby
Boomers. They live in families
where both parents are highly-
paid professionals, aspire to be
President from around the age of
six, are dressed for cuteness
rather than practicality and
have television executives run-
ning around in circles devising
special programmes for them.
They are the last group who
need a new identifying label.
They already have one and it
goes by the name of Spoilt Brats.

Singer with Georgia on her mind

Jessye Norman is one of music's
grand dames in more than merely
the physical sense. Observe her stately
progress onto the platform swathed
in flowing robes, an exotic blonde
adorning her hair. Wait with bated breath while the
soprano gathers concentration about her.
Here is someone rather special.

Miss Norman has lived in London since
1975. She bought her pretty mews cottage
behind Knightsbridge the following year.
The stiffly formal drawing room, with
sofas at right angles, shiny grand
piano, and framed letters and
photographs of
Brahms, Mahler and Debussy
belongs to someone seriously
committed to the world of music.

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It became clear to me that what
Berlin needed was a dramatic
soprano, and that I was being
offered that dramatic repertoire.
I told them that I was sure that
what was needed there, but not at
all sure it was what I should be
doing. I didn't want to plan
miles three or four years ahead
that would then be unsuitable for
me. I also knew that real vocal
progress could only be achieved
within the confines of an opera
house. She withdrew from opera
for five years and came to London
to learn to sing a different
repertoire.

"It was a difficult decision to
make in your 20s and initially
meant quite a cut in income.
But it wasn't courage that dic-
tated it - it was survival: quite
a different approach."



Surviving: Jessye Norman

"Segregation was the rule of the day,
and I went to an all-black grammar school.
Even had I gone to a private school, that
would have been segregated. In fact we
had Korean and Chinese friends who lived
in our area, and also friends who
happened to be white, so I led a non-
racialistic existence."

At the age of 16 she was offered a
scholarship at Howard University,
Washington. She majored in voice, with
musical literature as her second subject
and took elocution "because, as a singer,
I would have to consider language - it's
what makes singing interesting".

Wisely, as it turned out, she moved to
the University of Michigan in Detroit. "I
didn't know at that stage quite how I'd go
about becoming a professional singer -
there was no ground plan. But I knew that
Pierre Bernac was going to be spending
four months a year in Detroit, and I knew
he had a special way of working with
English-speaking singers."

She was right to go to him. The great
French singer of *melodie*, friend and
colleague of the composer, Francis
Poulenc, "did wonders for my French and
my hobby."

for the necessity of being understood."

It is an aspect of her singing today that
does most for the audience: he's set out to
include the audience and I'm glad if it
comes across, because that's why I'm
there.

This concern with projecting the
meaning of songs has encouraged Jessye
Norman to move into the increasingly
fashionable field of "cross-over". With
A Song in My Heart, an album of songs by
such evergreens as Gershwin, Cole Porter,
Rodgers and Hart, and Jerome Kern, has
recently been issued by Philips.

"I thought about it a long time ago and
found doing it a completely stimulating
experience. There's the same need to
communicate the text, whether it's Cole
Porter or Hugo Wolf."

She feels that the point of "cross-over"
- like spirituals - is that "a lot of people
are attracted to these recordings who
would not previously have listened to my
recitals. Spirituals perhaps have an even
wider appeal as the songs of weak and
suffering people, thrown into a new
culture and determined to survive it all."

Tonight Jessye Norman takes the title
role of Ariadne in Richard Strauss's
Ariadne auf Naxos in its new production
at Covent Garden, her first appearance in
British opera after a self-imposed absence
of 12 years. This also involves playing the
archetypal prima donna in the opera's
backstage Prologue, something she greatly
looks forward to. "It's lovely to be able to
carry on to that extent legally!"

Other British plans include two concerts
during the Proms - Chausson's *Poème de
l'Amour et de la Mer* on August 29 and
Mahler's magnificent and favourite *Das
Lied von der Erde* on September 3.

She adores the Proms, where she made
her British debut singing Berlioz on the
Last Night in 1971. "They're a marvellous
audience because you can sing any
repertoire and they're prepared to listen to
find out if they like it. That's very special."

Miss Norman lives alone and always
has done. "I could only marry someone
who would understand what I do -
otherwise it wouldn't work. In any case I
need solitude regularly for my own
concentration. Alone-ness is not synony-
mous with loneliness. To spend time alone
in thought is pleasurable - as is the
company of my friends when I've done my
work."

David Fingleton

Spare the lungs and strain the jaws



"But are they any use?" ask
friends sceptically as they watch
the unlikely sight of me chewing
nicotine-impregnated gum at the
dinner table. I answer enthu-
siastically "Yes, they're brilliant,
I'd be lost without them". This
is true though there are several
large "buts" to surrogate smok-
ing.

I've learnt that the gum
(Nicorette), helps me control the
number of cigarettes I smoke.
But I find it hard to give up
altogether precisely because I
chew the gum.

The gum is, obviously,
smokeless and tasteless and its
nicotine goes straight into the
blood-stream, thereby sparing
the lungs. For some odd very
obvious reason you have to get a
prescription from the doctor to
buy it. It has a fierce, non-sweet
flavour which tastes for about
five minutes (with constant
chewing), and it does kill the
craving to smoke.

The gum is meant to wear off
cigarettes and it can be highly
successful. So much so that
there is a lobby among doctors
to get it prescribed on the NHS
(it is not cheap). Some of my
best friends have achieved a
smokeless life thanks to chew-
ing the stuff. Others complain
that they become hooked on the
pellets (available in two

strengths: 2mg and 4mg). The
mule of a friend chain-chewed
the 4mg variety for a year before
finally kicking the habit.

The other day, about to give
birth, I made a huge effort to
stop smoking the odd guilty tag.
The thought of breast feeding
and smoking was too aesthet-
ically unpleasant to contem-
plate.

I chewed 2mg pellets solidly
for 10 days. Stage two involved
carefully priming myself with a
pellet at the end of a long day
when I am at my most
vulnerable and yearn for a
restorative smoke.

Stage three consisted of not
smoking or chewing for most of
the time. I always took a pack of
gum with me if I was in
company and likely to drink,
when the urge to smoke is at its
worst.

One day I thought I had what
it took to go to a drinks party
sans the gum. Alas, five glasses
of wine later I succumbed to a
delicious, deeply inhaled ciga-
rette for the first time in six
months, followed by two more.

Three months later I am still
messing about, not smoking for
a few days, even the odd week,
then socializing, having a drink
and treating myself to a
cigarette usually followed by a
gum pellet.

Well, it is a lot better than
smoking 20 a day. Most of
the time my lungs are free from
cancer-inducing substances.
Nevertheless I have failed to
give up properly and I feel I am
abusing the system. Nicotine
gum is not a complete substitute
for holding, lighting and in-
haling a cigarette. I look
forward to the launch over here
of the United States' smokeless
cigarette, Favor. Apparently
this is a filter impregnated with
nicotine stuck on the end of an
empty white plastic tube. I can't
wait; heaven knows when I'll
kick Favors.

Hilaire Gomer



VANESSA'S DIARY

Thurs. Decided to splash out for Ladies Day
at Royal Ascot. Wanted to make it a special occasion,
but dreaded all that scrumming for food and
drink. (Especially after last year. Uncle Giles, who
has an eye for the fillies, got rather too jolly on
champers and kept joining other people's parties).

Had brilliant idea. Booked a bunder-served
picnic from Fortnums, and had it in state in the
car park.

People watched in amazement as we tucked in
to crabmeat salad and chicken liver pâté and game
pie and profiteroles drenched in whipped cream and
chocolate sauce, with lashings of champers
impeccably served by our very own Fortnums butler.

Now that's what I call living. Why not send for
Fortnums Entertaining Made Easy Brochure, and
try it?

Fortnum & Mason
Piccadilly London W1A 1ER. Telephone 01-734 8040

THE TIMES DIARY

Naughty Natalia

Prominent guests invited to a recent late-night soiree at the Russian embassy in Kensington have been spilling the beans to me about the antics that went on. Among those invited by the Russian ambassador, Victor Popov, were 28-year-old Michael Liggins, who has just retired as chairman of the Bow Group, including Simpson of Pica-dilly's Mrs Hedy Simpson (mother-in-law to Brideshead's Anthony Andrews); her escort, a young photographer; John Smith MP, Labour's trade and industry spokesman; and Norman Wooding, deputy chairman of the textile giant Courtauld's. After a rather stiff evening listening to Russian folk music, "the fun really started". As the guests were wine and dined, a sing-song erupted. "Suddenly the young photographer asked Popov's wife Natalia to dance", I am told. "He was shouting, 'Russian? Greek? They're all the same.' At the sight of the Cossack-dancing pair, one guest, who was standing next to the ambassador, tells me that Popov's wife Natalia is young, and Popov keeps a beady eye on her. Every time I meet and embrace her, he says, 'Here, here! That's enough.' And he means it."

True/false

It must have quite spoiled Sunday at Myrtlebank. Yesterday's *People* related the tear-jerking story of the death of Larry Grayson's poodle, adding: "It was called Arthur Marshall after the radio and TV personality, a close friend of Larry, who died last month." As readers of the real Arthur Marshall's column in the *Sunday Telegraph* yesterday will realize, the doyen of *Call My Bluff* is happily still in a position to reveal a "false" card to that one.

Greater wall

An invitation to Princess Margaret to visit China for the first time informally accepted during the past two weeks - has been stopped by the Queen on the grounds of protocol. The Queen has made it clear the monarch should visit first. Although invited last year, the Queen will not visit until the autumn of 1986. The sardness of British diplomacy was apparently too much for Chinese premier Zhao Ziyang, who, during his visit here two weeks ago, promptly issued another invitation to Princess Margaret. Doubtless thinking China a good place to convalesce, the princess readily accepted. To the unhappiness of the Chinese, protocol now means the princess probably won't get her glimpse of the Great Wall until 1987.

Dream ticket

If the current court case about Tattersalls and the prize colt isn't enough to rock the turf, here's news to spoil a few breakfasts this morning. It comes from Harold Plotnik, chairman of the British Thoroughbred and Breeding Company, in a letter to his shareholders. "The 1985 season that we had so much hope for at the time of our Open Day in December is yet to materialize... I stated in the original prospectus, investing in racing bloodstock is a highly speculative business... I did mention that an element of luck is essential to success in this business and I do hope that when I report to you, this will have occurred." Dream on.

Madeira whine

Following my report about shadow chancellor Roy Hattersley's trip to Madeira, made courtesy of the merchant bank Ansbacher's, further disclosures about the bank are likely in the next month. Under the chairmanship of Charles Williams - who went to Madeira last winter with the Hattersleys - Ansbacher's in September showed a half-year pre-tax profit of £1.35 million. However, this figure has crashed to an end-year loss of £31.4 million. Williams resigned, this January, and was subsequently made a Labour peer in March. At the weekend, Ansbacher's managing director, Lord Patrick Spens, said that two of its directors, Richard Fenhalls and Claude Vercombe, are currently conducting an internal inquiry into the matter, and are expected to report by the end of next month. Meanwhile Lord Williams told me: "On a friendly basis I would advise you to watch what you are doing. This conversation is a non-conversation."

● It had to happen. Among the bottles being circulated at Red Sea's Bring-Your-Own-Bottle, birthday bash at the GLC's County Hall on Saturday was a flagon of Lanz rac, a cheeky little number from the Cape.

Save it

Surprise, surprise. Peter Walker, the Energy Secretary, did not like the *Times* piece last week which suggested his faction's attacks on the Federation of Conservative Students might have more than a little to do with his own political ambitions. Onlookers in the Commons lobby report the spectacle of Walker, accompanied by his parliamentary private secretary, Stephen Dorrell, haranguing a backbencher, Gerald Howarth, with accusations of "disloyalty" and "rumour-mongering". Unable to get a word in edgewise during a two-minute blasting, Howarth finally pointed out that Walker had got the wrong man. The only Howarth referred to in the article was Alan, not Gerald.

PHS

Old Lady's fall from grace

The London gold market had closed quietly when the rumour caught alight in New York and spread back to London and Hong Kong: a dealer was on the brink of bankruptcy. Stephen Fay relates the £240 million drama

When Lord Richardson of Duntisbourne was plain Mr Gordon Richardson, governor of the Bank of England, the Bank was an uncommonly assured and stylish institution. From his appointment in 1973, Richardson dominated it for a decade, and wielded his authority with sufficient subtlety to create the aura of mystery that attaches to power when it is used well. He once said: "I wouldn't have thought the office of governor still commands fear, though I do think it attracts a certain degree of respect and goodwill. It's true of prime ministers and popes too, isn't it?"

Such sublime confidence was unusual in Britain during the 1970s, but it had a purpose. During Richardson's term the character of the City changed. It ceased to be a club run by chaps who understood the rules, and could be trusted to do business with a nod and a wink. As the nation's most successful growth industry, the City became the centre of an international financial market, and one of the attractions to foreign bankers was the absence of the bureaucratic apparatus of government regulation that exists in the United States.

On the whole, British governments were persuaded by the Bank of England that it could be trusted to supervise and regulate the New City just as it had done when it was the Old Club. It was a matter of pride within the Bank that its authority was taken for granted with the backing of hardly any punitive legislation. One consequence, however, was that the Bank could not afford to make a really serious mistake.

Over a weekend last September the Bank exerted all its authority to prevent the failure of a London bank called Johnson Matthey Bankers. But its method of doing so was neither stylish nor assured. Tomorrow the Bank and the Treasury will provide their own accounts of the affair but in the City, among the clearing or High Street banks especially, its reserves of goodwill have been heavily drawn upon; and in the Treasury the degree of respect in which it is held is substantially down. After less than two years in the office of governor, Richardson's successor, Robin Leigh-Pemberton, can't feel at all like a pope, or even a prime minister.

Johnson Matthey, whose name will appear prominently in all future histories of the Bank, belongs in Hatten Garden, where it has been in the precious metals business since 1817. Its banking subsidiary started in 1963. The men running it moved out of Hatten Garden to Fenchurch Street, and their colleagues on the hulk side let them get on with it. The banking business grew fast, and looked good on the balance sheet.

There is a good deal of complicated arithmetic in the affair of Johnson Matthey Bankers (or JMB) but the basic facts are simple and shocking. Of the total £240 million that had been lent by the bank, £245 million was unlikely ever to be recovered and was written off. The losses were substantially larger than JMB's capital (£170 million) and were mostly incurred lending huge sums to Indians involved in risky business, much of it in Nigeria. The mixture proved combustible and since there is, so far, no evidence of fraud, this loss must be a British all-comers record for banking incompetence.

It is difficult to test the legality of the loan arrangements. The Indians have long since gone and the Bank of England has successfully asked the JMB directors, who subsequently resigned, to keep their stories to themselves. The Bank might well have welcomed evidence of fraud, since the murky details of criminal activity would have drawn attention away from the embarrassing questions that have been directed at the Bank itself. There are basically two. Why did incompetence on such a scale go undetected? And why should such ineptitude be rewarded by a bail-out with money drawn from both public and private funds?

The gold market in London had closed quietly on Friday, September 28 when the rumour that a London hulkion dealer was on the brink of bankruptcy caught alight in New York and spread back to London and on to Hong Kong. The Bank of England had already identified the victim: it was not a hulkion merchant but the hulkion merchant's

bank. The threat of a bank failure was so serious that to prevent turmoil flowing from east to west with the sun, a solution would have to be found before the Hong Kong gold market opened on Monday, at 2 am London time. There was no weekend that weekend for the top men from the City banks and hulkion houses.

The most convenient solution would have been a take-over of JMB by a Canadian bank involved in hulkion, the Bank of Nova Scotia, a course it considered but rejected on Sunday; there was simply no way of quantifying the eventual loss if the whole business were to founder. This left the Bank of England with a stark choice: either to take over JMB itself, or to allow the bank's losses to drag the whole company into certain liquidation, with the probable loss of confidence and of thousands of jobs.

The realization late on Sunday that there was a hole in the Banking Act meant that a bail-out would have disastrous repercussions. The Bank of England lacks the power to muscle in on a bank and save it from itself, as American bank supervisors can. Because of its dedication to persuasion, the Bank never thought such powers necessary. To bail out JMB, it would be necessary to purchase it. This meant nationalization; a first during Mrs Thatcher's term, surely.

But senior officials at the Bank, led by the deputy governor, Kit McMahon, were unanimous: they reached for their banker's jargon and declared the problem to be "systemic". If JMB went, other banks would be endangered, and because of Johnson Matthey's hulkion business the London gold market could also come under intolerable

pressure. It was a time, therefore, for the City to demonstrate its legendary nerves of steel. The members of the hulkion market showed theirs immediately. Led by N M Rothschild, they declared that confidence that had taken 200 years to build would be lost in five minutes. Along with much of the hulkion held in London, if JMB went bust. Even though it meant bailing out a competitor, they said they would put up millions of pounds to prevent this. That was generous, but it wasn't enough.

The banks with the bankrolls big enough to arrest the failure of JMB were the clearing National Westminster, Lloyds, the Midlands and Barclays, and they were very reluctant contributors. They didn't have much money in Johnson Matthey, they said; it was someone else's problem. Eventually, the case for their participation in the solution of the systemic problem was spelled out with calculated brutality: the failure of JMB would not be an isolated episode. It would be interpreted by international bankers as an isolated episode. They would be running through the names to see which might be next, and however far-fetched it might seem, their fingers would stop at the name of one of the banks round the table - the Midlands, which might be vulnerable in a serious storm, because of the ill-advised purchase of the Crocker National Bank in San Francisco.

If the argument was dramatic, the scene at the Bank of England that weekend was more like farce. Technically, the Bank's team had decided that the groups of interested parties should be isolated from one another, and since the business was mostly being transacted in the office of the deputy governor, this was logistically demanding. The hulkion dealers could not understand why

they were being held incommunicado for hours, nourished only by a couple of sandwiches and warm white wine.

They caught glimpses of shaken Johnson Matthey directors and of the South Africans from Charter Consolidated (the biggest single shareholder), who were being asked to stump up £50 million to reduce JMB's loss, then and there. Only after their arms had been twisted and the clearers had put up their millions did the hulkion crowd learn why they had been kept waiting.

The Court of the Bank's directors was called into session by the governor shortly after midnight to ratify the Bank's acquisition of JMB. The nominal price was £1. The bank had to commit itself to meet an open-ended sum which has turned out to involve over £100 million of public money. (The negotiations had been to decide how much would contribute to indemnify JMB's losses.) By the time the Chancellor of the Exchequer was informed it was a *fait accompli*, Hong Kong did not panic, and the London and New York markets behaved almost as though nothing had happened. But there was no self-congratulation at the Bank. There was nothing to celebrate. In just 48 hours the assumption that the inherent and only of the Bank was itself a deterrent to imprudent financing by banks in the City had been shattered.

The Bank is now requiring banks to provide more detailed information, including forecasts as well as results. Inspectors from the supervisory department are being instructed to do more leg-work, visiting the clients' branches as well as head offices. It is less elegant - but supervision will be decidedly more emphatic. So will new powers of intervention in an amended Banking Act.

The need for greater legal power is a further confession that old ways no longer work, since the leading author of the 1979 Banking Act was none other than the Bank of England. A simple request for extra legislation shifts the balance of power away from the Bank in Threadneedle Street to the Treasury in Great George Street. With a governor as compelling as Gordon Richardson, the Bank had its way with government, and the consequence is that when the Bank fell into error and became a supplicant, the Treasury embarked on a vigorous revanchist policy. When the Chancellor is of a bullying nature, the pain inflicted can be quite severe - like deliberately delaying the re-nomination of the deputy governor, as Nigel Lawson did last winter. Privately, the Bank actually accuses the Treasury of compounding the error of the original supervisory failure by bailing out JMB at all.

Mostly, disputes like this are conducted confidentially between the Bank and the Treasury. But this affair got out of hand, and unlike other banking matters, developed a strong political dimension. Dr David Owen decided the case was worth his attention.

Discreet silence is the Bank's true nature, and Owen's insults made the injuries even more insupportable, provoking it to adopt an uncommonly wasteful tone. The four clearing banks, however, had gone on sulking while the fight was on, letting it be known in the City that they thought the Bank had mis-handled the JMB affair.

Nine months later, a report on the affair is about to be made. But the question of real importance is not whether the Bank should or should not have bailed out the bankrupt bank. It is certainly arguable that, since the international banking system was on the verge of a collective nervous breakdown last September, the Bank did the right thing. The really important matter is the method of regulating growing and complex markets in the City of London.

Since Gordon Richardson was evidently unable to bequeath his style and assurance to his successor, can the regulation of the City still depend mainly on the delegated authority of the office of the governor of the Bank of England?

It is not Robin Leigh-Pemberton's fault that clearly the answer is "no".

The Great Silver Bubble by Stephen Fay is published by Hutchinson.



Poor verdict for Jarulzelski

Warsaw Michnik: In order to stay true to my conscience, I can say only one thing - I forgot those who lie about me and who torment me.

Judge Thank you. The defence counsel called the trial last week of three Solidarity leaders a return to darkest Stalinism but, in truth, the atmosphere of the Gdansk courtroom was more akin to that of the Salem witch trials. The evidence was thin, the justice rough. In the dock Adam Michnik, Wladyslaw Frasyniuk and Bogdan Lis, accused of conspiring with the devil and dabbling with the black magic of protest strikes, were huddled again and again by the judge and ordered to keep politics out of their defence in this most political of trials.

As in 17th-century New England, it needed a leap of faith to accept the prosecution's arguments. It was alleged that the Solidarity men were hatching a conspiracy to paralyze Poland at the very moment that the trial burst into their living-room. But the strict management of the trial and the harsh sentences imposed (3½ years for Frasyniuk, three years for Michnik, 2½ years for Lis) pose some tricky problems for the Jarulzelski government. Has it set a precedent for Soviet-style political trials, with no independent observers and a restricted defence, in the coming months? And if so, at what price to General Jarulzelski's plans for a reconciliation with the Catholic church and the Polish people? Should the West react to repressive moves that belie promi-

ses, made on the diplomatic circuit, of "liberalization"? There are some 200 political prisoners awaiting trial in Poland. Over 600 political were freed in a wide-ranging amnesty last summer - making it possible for the West to end Warsaw's diplomatic isolation. But this year the cells have been filling up quickly.

Although government advisers speak dismissively of the opposition ("Oppositionists must have programmes. How do you think Solidarity would get us out of the crisis?"), there are clear signs of anxiety. The Gdansk trial was supposed to show firm resolve before two controversial moves planned for next month: a rise in the price of meat (15 per cent in many cases) and a change in the law to curb university democracy. Those decisions could arouse workers and students to make common cause against the authorities.

A high priority of the Polish government is to regain its standing within the Warsaw Pact. In just over a week it will host another Soviet bloc summit - of Comecon, the Communist "common market" and the last thing it wants is evidence of "counter-revolutionary" activity.

The government seems to be acting on the following premises: the Gdansk trial was a warning signal; if July passes quietly then the authorities will be able to start making concessions, primarily to the Catholic church, in the lead-up to parliamentary elections in October.

The elections are even more important than those recently staged in Hungary. The size of the turnout is supposed to show that the overwhelming majority of Poles now accept institutional means of expressing their views.

To pave the way, to present the government as a conciliatory force, the authorities will lift their largely artificial objections to a church scheme to channel western aid to private farmers and a law guaranteeing church rights in Polish society. Two recently jailed priests - sentenced for organizing sit-in strikes at a school to protest against the stripping down of crucifixes - may also be freed.

It is in the nature for the "optimistic" faction of the Jarulzelski leadership that it always looks to "new beginnings". In 1981 it was a Communist Party congress that would democratize communism and steal the wind of Solidarity. Later it was the lifting of martial law and last year's amnesty; now it is the October elections. But parliamentary elections - from a choice of candidates, who must all subscribe to the communist system - make no sense at all unless they are in some way mirror of the genuinely pluralistic nature of Polish society. Limited concessions to the church, even if they have a knock-on effect in the rest of the population, are immediately confounded if the police are busily arresting the writers, publishers and printers of the underground press. Last week the secret police arrested

the editorial board of the clandestine quarterly *Krytyka*, not an inflammatory broadsheet but a serious journal that tries to broaden discussion in Poland. It was not a good sign.

It has always been difficult, and it is now almost impossible, to govern Poland. Solidarity has given any thinking that can call itself a group (with the probable exception of the Communist Party) a boost of self-confidence unprecedented in the Soviet bloc.

When the authorities try to reassert themselves - as in the Gdansk trial - the result is outrage, protest or ridicule. The only way the authorities will begin to gain control is to make things work, to persuade the Poles of their administrative competence. "We are not a behavioural experiment," said a grouse Pole recently, "not a guinea-pig that can be prodded with sterilized sticks and then, when the time is ripe, offered sugar cubes or sticks of celery."

Already the Gdansk trial is upsetting the government calendar. Pope John Paul II was extremely critical of the proceedings at the weekend, a fact that will set back the envisaged improvement in church-state relations; and the Spanish foreign minister, provisionally scheduled to visit Warsaw this week, has found that he no longer has time for the trip. The bungled trial has shown the fallacy of carrot-and-stick politics. Too much stick, and the carrots lose their flavour.

Roger Boyes

Anne Sofer

Coalition lessons from Canada

Those who are busy speculating about the shape of the next British government should be watching events in Ontario carefully. This week, Why Ontario? you ask in astonishment. But the question merely betrays a typical insularity. British constitutional issues often receive their first airing in Canada.

The issue in question is the power to dissolve parliament and call a new election. Where does it reside? Formally, of course, with the Queen or - in Canada - the Queen's representative. But under what conventions and constraints? Canada's constitutional history is peppered with instances where this has not been a mere formality but a matter of hot debate. The most famous case, in 1926, was when the governor-general refused Mackenzie King a dissolution, turned instead to an opposition coalition and asked its leader to form a government.

More recently, in 1979, Joseph Clark, prime minister of a minority administration, went to the governor-general and asked for a dissolution after six months in office, assuming that the request was a mere formality. The governor-general did, in fact, grant his request but only 24 hours later, after due consideration. This delay, and the assertion it implied of the governor-general's independent judgement of the issue, caused a storm.

Three related questions arise. If a government in office asks for a dissolution of parliament, is it entitled to have one even if there may be an alternative coalition which can command a majority? Does the length of time the government has been in office affect the proper answers to this question? Finally, who is the proper judge of the alternative's viability?

In Ontario an interesting situation has arisen as a result of last month's election, in which the Conservatives, long the ruling party, lost overall control, while still retaining the largest number of seats. (The arithmetic was: Conservatives 52 (37 per cent of the vote), Liberals 48 (38 per cent of the vote), New Democratic Party (NDP) 25 (24 per cent of the vote).

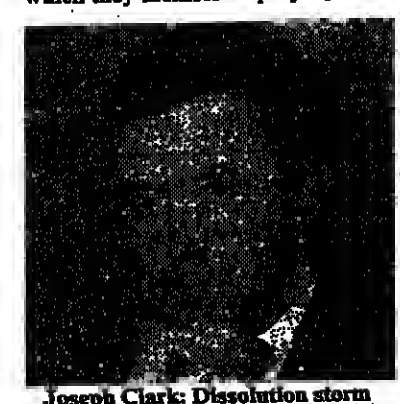
The provinces in Canada run on constitutional conventions akin to those of the British parliament. That is to say, elections have to be held every five years, but parliament can be dissolved and new elections called within that period. The premier remains premier until he tenders his resignation to the lieutenant-governor, and every administration is inaugurated with a Speech from the Throne which is debated and voted on. In this case, the Conservative leader did not tender his resignation after the election, but formed a minority administration and presented his Speech.

Meanwhile, the Liberals and the NDP have got together and agreed a two-year programme of government. Their agreement rules out the possibility of new elections during that period. Today, having defeated the Speech from the Throne, they plan to pass a vote of no confidence in the government.

It is then expected that the

lieutenant-governor will invite the Liberal leader to form an administration. The argument is that a premier who has not even got a Speech from the Throne through since the election has no right to expect a dissolution and another election. The lieutenant-governor's role in this situation is to see if anyone else can form a government. There will be rumblings and public discussion, but Canada's constitutional experts seem to be clear about the propriety of this proceeding.

Many British politicians in the Labour and Conservative parties will be watching in dismay. Any constitutional development which strengthens the pressure for coalition is anathema. They would rather pretend that there is a convention whereby the largest single party is allowed to carry on a minority administration - both parties preferring rule by the other to any sort of coalition, even one in which they themselves play a part.



Joseph Clark: Dissolution storm. They will try to argue that the leader of the largest single party has traditional constitutional rights to form a government, to ask for (and get) a dissolution of parliament, even as Peter Kellner of the *New Statesman* has argued - if he or she has not got a single vote through parliament.

It is this outrageous proposition that the Ontario development will knock on the head. There is irony in this as the Liberal/NDP coalition's programme contains a whole raft of reforms that any political editor of the *New Statesman* would thoroughly approve, of equal-pay legislation, restraints on private medicine, extended rent controls, a tough anti-pollution law. Does Labour Party now want them to succeed or fail?

There are parallels between Ontario and some English shire councils. As a result of recent elections in both places, years of Conservative rule have ended. Opportunities for improvement and reform suddenly present themselves. Yet in this country the Labour Party, at the centre at any rate, does everything possible to prevent the opportunity, being exploited if it involves anything that looks like co-operation with the Alliance.

It is a line they are going to find increasingly hard to sustain, in the face of the desire of the voters for something different.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/ILEA for St Pancras North.

moreover... Miles Kington

Let my pockets hold your attention

There is one sentence you sometimes come across in the which makes me go pale and sweaty, and forces me to hold on to the nearest person for support, so intense is the dread that it produces. It's nothing to do with being beaten up or followed or hunted. It's this sentence: "He was made to empty the contents of his pockets on the table."

I have sometimes emptied the contents of my pockets upon a table. In fact, I do it every night before I get undressed, but at least that is in the privacy of my own bedside table. My bedside table understands me. My bedside table has seen it all before and is not embarrassed when I empty my pockets at night and place upon it the following minimum repertory company of objects:

Two key-rings; one collection of British coins; a handkerchief; a forgotten tissue; two combs; a rail timetable to the West Country; four ball-point pens; a lighter; a friend's knife-pins-corkscrew; an envelope; three quill toothpicks; a pocket diary; a cigarette lighter; an out-of-date return rail ticket; a shopping list with everything crossed off except "coffee beans"; an airline face-wipe sachet; a newspaper cutting, usually of a recipe; a chequebook; a booklet of stamps; and a wallet containing pound notes, credit cards, old receipts, driving licence, photographs of people who may or may not be my children, etc.

If my bedside table could talk, it would probably say something like this: "Blimey, squire, I know that between your jacket and your trousers you've got anything up to 10 pockets, but even so, I mean, how do you get it all in there? And don't you ever fall asleep with the sheer weight of it? And what's going to happen if someone asks you to empty the contents of your pockets on the table? Fair enough, I'm used to it, but how are they going to take it?"

Well, the answer to that last question is that I already know how they are going to take it. Because I have already had to empty the contents of my pockets on the table, and it's the memory of that which makes me go all pale and sweaty. It happens in airports. It comes after the passport control and before the departure lounge, when you go through that curious doorway that makes a noise if you have a hand grenade tucked away in your underpants. It almost always makes

a noise for me, and somebody then says: "Could you just empty the contents of your pockets on this table?"

I then empty my pockets and produce everything I have mentioned above. But as this is just prior to an international flight, I usually have a few extra items tucked into the pockets I don't normally use, as follows:

A paperback; a pocket calculator to deal with exchange rates; a passport; a boarding card; a map; a pair of sunglasses; a small dictionary; a traveller's cheques; foreign exchange; a spare roll of film; a notebook; a pencil; a few postcards to write on the plane; inoculation documents; spare labels; keys for my suitcase, etc, etc.

On some occasions I have even produced, in addition to all the above, a plastic spoon, a packet of sugar, a safety pin and a spare battery for the camera.

By the time I have finished, the pile on the table looks like the total offerings in a small rural auction. But the airport staff never turn a hair. However embarrassed I am, they simply say: "Could you go through the doorway again, please, sir?"

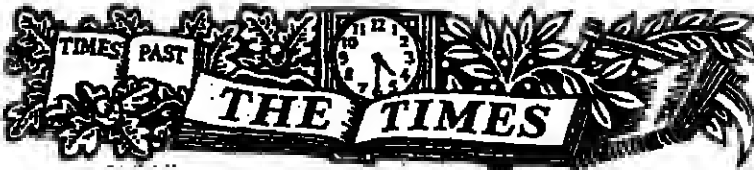
What is embarrassing for both sides after that is that even divested of all my earthly goods, I often manage to produce another noise in the security doorway. This would be all right if I had an artificial limb, or shrapnel in my leg, but I haven't. "It's probably the huckle in your belt," they murmur, and let me through. All I have to do then is replace my possessions in my pockets, which doesn't usually delay the plane by more than a quarter of an hour.

The upshot of all this is twofold. 1. I never, ever, make jokes about the amount of things that women carry in their handbags. 2. I would almost certainly get through customs carrying a couple of grenades and any amount of small arms, hidden among the detritus I normally take with me.

If any terrorist organization wishes to contact me, view to arranging hijack or possible assassination attempt, I think I am your man. I would do almost anything within reason, for a small fee.

I would ask for a large fee, but I haven't got the room in my pockets for it.

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EVIL IN THE AIR

This violence is in us all. This hijack, that football tragedy, murder, bombs, child-beating. They kindle something evil in our hearts which we must address before we can hope to approach the profound moral crisis which afflicts the modern world and strains our understanding when confronted with such atrocities. We are told, or we used to be told, that evil is evil and that there can be no hesitation in condemning it and no question of compromising with it. And yet now, when confronted with evil, our civilization in general, and each individual within, seems to falter, and to reflect, and to find no meaning, and less moral reassurance in his or her judgement that this is the way to tackle evil.

There was a time in the Western civilization when Christianity seemed to apply firm principles which could mediate between the individual and society to provide both with a sense of proportion and responsibility in human behaviour. The highest principles were seldom achieved, demanding as they do great suffering or sacrifice of the individual. Yet all that is now relative, so that when each of us is confronted by some new horror, such as we have seen this weekend, we do not know how to respond as individuals and society, nor aggregate, thus fails us too.

Each one of us is likely to lay the blame for these shocks on some external circumstance. But the incapacity of Western society and its leadership to control the natural violence within us, to discipline it and to accept that enormous sacrifices – casualties – by individuals and innocents lies at the heart of a malaise which involves the Western world watching apparently impotent, without moral purpose or strength, but only a sense of outrage while the barbarian within us runs amok.

This hijack raises specific questions such as the incompetence and weakness to be discovered at Athens where it all began. Should anybody now fly to Athens? Should any airline, with half a sense of responsibility to its passengers, include Athens on its schedule, until Athens shows a similar sense of responsibility in the future? The same could be said for Algiers for allowing the aircraft to take off again on another grisly journey.

As for Beirut, it is just one of the most gaping wounds of the world's sickness. Only some re-

MONEY MATTERS

Constant criticism is essential to the successful operation of economic policy. In particular, the financial press and market commentators must always be on the alert to spot misdemeanours, actual or potential, in monetary control. If the Government ignores them and responds with obvious reluctance to early warning signals, corrective action to check subsequent crisis may have to be disproportionately strong.

So much is recognized and understood. The Government has, for example, made clear since 1981 that it wants market views to play a role in interest rate determination. But, if criticism in general is helpful and desirable, particular criticisms are not necessarily constructive. At present there is widespread and well-publicized complaint about the institutional structure of monetary control. Much of it is highly technical; most of it is unjustified; nearly all of it fails to identify the real weaknesses in government policy.

Unfortunately, it has been given plausibility by a number of quite unrelated difficulties faced by the monetary authorities. The Bank of England is justifiably embarrassed by the Johnson Matthey affair, the Treasury is worried about the potential loss of tax revenue from the current weakness in oil prices; and the Chancellor and the Bank together have unsettled market confidence by a needlessly public disagreement over the state of monetary policy.

In these circumstances it is important to restate principles which must guide financial policy at all times. Two deserve particular emphasis. The first is that the behaviour of the monetary aggregates must be consistent with a sustained reduction in inflation and the second that a competitive financial system should be able to provide enough bank finance to support steady economic expansion. At times these objectives may be in conflict. Bank loans create new deposits and add to the money supply; if there is too much bank credit, there will also be too high money supply growth. A third principle then comes into play,

that excessive growth of credit and money should be checked by an increase in interest rates, not by artificial restrictions on the quantity of bank lending.

In essence, the private sector's demand for bank finance has been so buoyant, and the resulting pressure on broad measures of money (notably sterling M3) so great, that the Bank of England has had to neutralize excess monetary growth by unusually large sales of government debt to the general public. Such sales have often been higher than the Government's own borrowing needs, with the result known technically as "over-funding".

The surplus proceeds have been used to buy commercial bills issued by industrial companies. Over-funding, therefore, respects the central priorities of financial policy. It both contributes to the restraint of sterling M3 and permits the banking system to meet the demand for credit at the going rate of interest, in full. While broad money is kept on target, distorting credit controls are avoided.

These are substantial advantages. The critics of over-funding are worried about matters, such as the shape of the yield curve and the volume of daily money market intervention, which by comparison are trivial as well as abstruse. There may be room for improving the monetary control machinery, but complete overhaul is not warranted. There is no need to rebuild a house because something has gone wrong with the plumbing.

Britain's monetary arrangements resemble a democratic system of government. They are unsatisfactory, inefficient and produce all the wrong results, until one considers the alternatives. The major problem in macroeconomic policy today is not the untidiness of monetary control, but the Government's failure of will over public expenditure and the consequent persistence of an excessive budget deficit. It is to these fundamental issues, not the abysmal mechanics of overfunding and sterling M3, that Treasury ministers should be addressing themselves.

'The Times' and the BBC

From Mr Mark Bonham-Carter

Sir, On May 29 *The Times* published its fifth leader this year in its campaign against the BBC. In none will you find any declaration of interest of *The Times* and its parent company in this matter.

The latest leader takes the form of instructions to the Peacock committee. It is interesting to learn how *The Times* thinks that a committee conducting an enquiry should proceed. There is no nonsense about impartiality. Professor Peacock's problem is not just to counter the BBC's old arguments, but to "deal with" Mr Stuart Young's "certainty" about the effect on broadcasting of the BBC taking advertising.

Surely it is not the job of the Peacock committee "to counter" the BBC's or anyone else's arguments, but rather more difficult one of assessing the likely consequences for the British public of a radical change in the way British broadcasting is being financed. It may well be that in matters such as this "certainty" is unattainable, but it should be possible to establish the balance of probabilities with a degree of confidence.

This requires some degree of consensus on what is desirable and an examination of the evidence available. I am confused about what *The Times* regards as desirable. It states categorically that "Programme quality is not a primary political issue" (January 15), yet in the very next paragraph it advises the Government to "consider critically" whether British television "really is better than that of the Americans". Such consideration would have to be conducted with quality.

Finally it concludes by asking what reason there is "to be certain" (sic) that finance by advertising would overthrow the standards set by the BBC and its competitors.

To answer that question the experience of broadcasting systems wholly or mainly dependent on advertising must be examined. This experience is not referred to in *The Times*'s five articles except for the somewhat eccentric reference to American TV. Yet the evidence is readily available and fully documented. Some of it is to be found in Mr Stuart Young's speech which *The Times* is attacking.

That evidence is overwhelmingly in favour of confining advertising to the independent sector and to maintaining in broad outline the present system of finance if the Government wish to maintain the broadcasting standards to which we have fortunately become accustomed.

Yours faithfully,
MARK BONHAM-CARTER,
13 Clarendon Road, W11.

Mr Getty's gift to art

From the Chairman of the National Art-Collections Fund

Sir, On behalf of the committee and all members of the National Art-Collections Fund may I express the greatest pleasure and delight at the wonderful generosity of Mr Paul Getty to the National Gallery (report, June 14).

The NACF has already experienced Mr Getty's interest and generosity when he donated last year, through the NACF, £400,000 to Manchester's appeal for the wonderful "Crucifixion" by an early Sienese painter.

Mr Getty is indeed a friend of us all in Britain.

Yours faithfully,
NORMANBY, Chairman,
National Art-Collections Fund,
20 John Islip Street, SW1.

Threat from Morocco

From Mr Adrian P. Hewitt

Sir, Morocco's application to join the EEC, which you style as "threatened" in your leader of June 12 on the enlargement of the Community, is already rather more advanced.

Your conferees on *Le Monde* reported on November 14, 1984, that King Hassan II's official request to join had been made to President Mitterrand and passed on to the governments of the other nine member states at the June meeting of the Council of Ministers in Fontainebleau. M. Roland Dumas, now French External Affairs Minister,

confirmed last November that Morocco was a candidate for full EEC membership.

Clearly the French are making the running in this venture (as so often in EEC affairs) and perhaps France does not view with undue concern the recent closer ties – amounting to a reconciliation – between King Hassan and Colonel Gaddafi and between their respective countries.

Other member states may, however, view Morocco's candidacy as a threat and so find your choice of adjective rather apt.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN P. HEWITT,
Overseas Development Institute,
10-11 Percy Street, W1.

Spreading the load at airports

From Mr Robert Adley MP for Christchurch (Conservative)

Sir, Airport developments are amongst the most important economic and social decisions made by government. On the one hand they create employment and economic activity. On the other, they can destroy the environment.

For this reason I have for years believed that her Majesty's Government has an overriding priority, in the national interest, to ensure that investment in airport capacity takes place where it is both environmentally acceptable and economically essential.

This points to taking positive planning decisions to augment the utilisation of regional airports in the Midlands and the North, where development at the existing airports seems generally to be required by most local people. Catering for the needs of air travellers is important, but not at the expense of other considerations.

Consistently we are told that if we do not provide more airport capacity in the South-east the traffic will go to Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris, etc. Having worked for many years in the tourist industry, I believe this to be patent nonsense. People who want to come to Britain don't want to go to Holland, Belgium or France and then find an alternative means of transport to the UK.

If Stansted's capacity is increased it will cream off a lot of the charter traffic from the regional airports. If the Stansted development is blocked, that traffic will have to find its landing places at existing airports which are under-utilised but mainly well served by road and rail.

Life in a major capital city inevitably involves a degree of noise and congestion. The answer surely is to concentrate this in as few places as possible, not as many, and thus Heathrow and Gatwick should be developed to their maximum potential. No capital city in Europe can do this, let alone four, major airports, as is now proposed for London.

The Government to date still have not been willing to accept the need to fund the railways so that they can help to alleviate a major part of the environmental problem at Heathrow by means of an Iver/Heathrow/Feltham link, which could dramatically change the railway map of southern England and, with contiguous lines, open up direct access to Heathrow by rail from all parts of Britain. The thought of linking Heathrow-Gatwick-Stansted-Luton via the M25

was being appealed against, and four or five could be attributed to local management conceding the claimant's case.

This right should be retained all the more vigorously in the light of Mr Fowler's proposals, not discarded as an administrative inconvenience. For he is calling the department to exercise a much greater degree of discretion over special-needs payments to those entitled at present to supplementary benefit than exists under the law now.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully,
STEPHEN WILLIAMS
(Welfare rights worker),
Bewdsey Advice Centre,
St Matthew's Church Hall,
Bewdsey Road,
Nottingham.
June 4.

Benefit appeals

From Mr Stephen Williams

Sir, Our social security appeal system is arguably one of the finest in the world. You report (June 4) that this system will cease under Mr Norman Fowler's social security reforms. In particular, you mention that this right will be lost by those who claim supplementary benefit today. Appeals against special needs payments or loans will instead be heard by local management.

An important principle of English law will therefore be lost – the right to have a grievance heard by an independent decision-maker. Of 20 supplementary benefit appeals where I have represented the claimant personally in the last year or so, only two have found in favour of the DHSS's original decision.

Alcohol abuse

From the Director of Alcohol Concern

Sir, Your editorial, "One day at a time" (June 10) suggested Mrs Thatcher might send a 50th birthday wish to Alcoholics Anonymous. She might also take the opportunity to clarify just where the Government stands on alcohol misuse.

On the one hand, urgent plans to ban alcohol at football matches and on supporters' coaches are in train. On the other hand, the Government are considering permitting pubs to open between 10am and 12 mid-

nights, thus increasing the availability of alcohol and no doubt its consumption and related harm.

Already, at the very minimum, alcohol abuse costs this country £2bn a year. For a Government to take steps which will increase this, without allocating more resources to prevention and to facilities for problem drinkers, would be irresponsible.

Yours faithfully,
DIANNE HAYTER, Director,
Alcohol Concern,
c/o Kirkcaldy's,
99 Southwark Street, SE1.
June 10.

Future of universities

From Lord Caldecote, F.R.S.

Sir, Thank heaven we are at last learning from the Victorians, those very practical people, as David Watt described them in his article on May 31, but not in the way that he wants.

In those days universities, and many schools, were turning out young men well equipped for the tasks of the time, to administer and defend our great empire, and to serve the professions, as well as to live scholarly sheltered lives in pursuit of truth for its own sake.

They were good old days, for some at least, enjoyed no doubt by intellectuals and practical people alike.

But it was these practical, enterprising people who created the wealth and made possible the enjoyable pursuit of intellectual, cultural and sporting activities which have made and indeed still

make Britain such a marvellous country.

Today we live in a much tougher world, where Britain is no longer at the top of the industrial league, and we have to fight the competition much more effectively even to maintain our position and our ability to live the kind of lives that David Watt is not alone in wanting.

Sadly, he and many others do not seem to understand that the universities must continue to educate the right mix of people as they did in Victorian days, able to meet the country's needs.

But today the mix is very different: as well as intellectuals seeking the truth we do need a much higher proportion of well educated engineers and scientists if industry is to prosper and we are to regain some of our lost share of world trade.

Some universities must accept a share of the blame for this state of affairs, for they have abused the privilege of academic freedom by

Conclusions drawn from empty pews

From Canon Edward Powell

Sir, A country parson now entering his forty-fourth year as incumbent of a small and remote East Anglian village, and having served as rural dean for 27 years in this country-side of similar parishes, can perhaps appreciate both the essential truth of the rural Anglicanism survey and yet plead balancing considerations modifying its sombre conclusions.

With few exceptions village churches are almost empty at Sunday worship. With elderly congregations (many villages are devoid of young people) of barely a dozen people, no choir to sing, no staff of churchwardens, sidesmen, servers, bellringers, and often no organist, small wonder if the parson is a beaten man, radiating defeat rather than victory.

There is, however, another picture of religion in the countryside which cannot be overlooked. The heroic and largely successful efforts to keep the parish churches in repair, the enormous sums of money paid in parochial quotas to diocesan funds, even the weekly cleaning of the parish church and the tidying of the churchyard owe almost everything to the folk religion of the English people.

Such religion, disregarding churchgoing and definite Christian belief, yet finds in the parish church something worth working for and preserving. To a surprising degree it is to the parish church people turn in hours of joy and sorrow, witnessing to the need of the human spirit for relationship with a power beyond themselves.

It is this folk religion that needs the understanding service of the parochial ministry. Long, patient, pastoral work can alone offer hope of baptizing the religion of the people into the religion of the Church.

Alas, increasingly over the last half-century we have had a peripatetic ministry pressing for a change of sphere every four or five years. The parson has become merely a cult figure, appearing in church but otherwise invisible on six days in the week and incomprehensible on the seventh.

No doubt many reforms are urgently needed in rural church administration; to name but one, we are (certainly in East Anglia) over-clothed. Be this as it may, the times demand a rural ministry with gifts of leadership and perseverance – perhaps the idea of marriage to a pastoral area as a bishop is married to his diocese.

Your obedient servant,
EDWARD POWELL,
Belchamp St Paul Vicarage,
Sudbury,
Suffolk.

Food and famine

From Sir John Dilke

Sir, Your leading article of June 10 entitled "Food and famine", shows where Russian Communism has failed. You write that "we... have a world in which the only areas of endemic food insufficiency are the Soviet bloc, elements of the Middle East and South Saharan Africa".

Seventy years ago Britain and France tried desperately to force the passage of the Dardanelles so that their ally, Russia, could resume grain exports and arms imports. Since then we have seen the fearful famine in the Ukraine caused by the Bolsheviks.

These same Bolsheviks continue to keep Russia short of grain, and not only Russia but 10 European nations occupied by Russia. They even try to export famine by promoting Bolshevism further afield.

Stalin himself admitted that the liquidation of the kulaks was worse than the German invasion.

Yours etc,
JOHN DILKE,
Ludgus,
Eitchingham,
Sussex.
June 11.

Ethiopian famine

From Dr Andrew Porter

Sir, The sad realities of the Ethiopian/superpower collusion (feature, June 4) mean that millions of Tigray and Amhara peasants are likely to die of starvation through what amounts to a genocidal policy.

Despite pronouncements by the Dergue, much of Tigray and Eritrea is still controlled by the TPLF and EPLF: feeding centres set up in or adjacent to these territories are unlikely to reach the majority of the hungry, who will in any case be reluctant to go to them because of the risk of forced resettlement.

I recently returned from three months spent in a camp for Tigrayan refugees in Sudan. Many of these peasant farmers were planning to return shortly to replant, a cour-

ageous decision in view of the dangers involved. It is tragic to think that anyone, let alone the government of their country, could conduct a "scorched earth" policy against these tough and dignified people.

The United States has chosen the wrong option. By increasing cross border aid they could put much more pressure on the Dergue, and on their Russian allies. The argument that this might lead to the expulsion of aid agencies from Ethiopia is spurious. It is very unlikely that this threat would be carried out, since Ethiopia is so reliant on Western aid.

The British, American and European public, who have given so generously towards the victims of famine and war in Ethiopia, need to realise what cynical manoeuvrings are taking place in their name by the United States Administration.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW PORTER,
The William Harvey Hospital,
Kennington Road,
Willesborough, Kent.

Hope deferred

From Mr D. Price-Hughes

Sir, My wife answers the phone: Voice: "Can you tell me your address?" Wife: "Why?" Voice: "I have a telegram for you." Wife: "What does it say?" Voice: "I'm not allowed to tell you – it will be delivered by post." Wife: "When?" Voice: "I have no idea."

Yours etc,
D. PRICE-HUGHES,
Eldon,
West Hill,
Overy St Mary,
Devon.
June 12.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 17 1870

BRIGANDAGE IN SPAIN.

(FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT)

MADRID, JUNE 11.

The Messrs. Bonell are now safe at Gibraltar, and swift punishment seems to have overtaken their captors... our Minister, Mr. Layard, did not fail to impress upon the Spanish Government the absolute necessity of availing anything, like an armed pursuit. Most explicit instructions to this effect were given by Señor Rivero to the Governors of Cadix, Seville, and Malaga... They were told to co-operate with the Spanish refugees of Gibraltar, who a day or two, after the gentlemen were missing went to Sir R. Airey and told him they thought they could discover them, provided they had few passes and full power to treat. I must say this voluntary tender of services is not devoid of strong suspicions of complicity between them and the brigands... When Mr. Layard mentioned the offer to the Government, they instantly telegraphed to the Spanish Consul in Gibraltar to afford the necessary papers. It was found two of them did not need passes, but the third and principal one, Gaharon, who had been implicated in the Republican rising in Andalusia, did. Messrs. Bonell remained the first night very near the place of their capture, and for the next eight days and nights at a place in the mountains not more than 30 miles from Gibraltar, which seems to have been the rendezvous of the entire band, who were composed of many more than the five who effected their capture. As they were conducted there by a guide, and blindfolded, they cannot point out the exact spot. It was a small house, looking on to a yard. Here they were well treated and well fed. In fact, it seems to have been the policy of the brigands to do nothing to injure them, but simply to retain them until negotiations for their ransom were set on foot. The emissary Gaharon was as good as his word. Two or three days after leaving he reported to the Government that the ransom had been paid out where they were, and that they were well and well cared for. One day the Bonells overheard the brigands discussing the aim to be demanded for their ransom, and how to get it without detection. They had the pleasant satisfaction of hearing one of the fellows coolly propose to cut their throats and be content with what they had found upon them, as he felt sure there was a ransom, and they would ultimately be severely punished for their audacity in attacking Englishmen who were "ugly customers"...

They seem at last to have formed their plan – to receive the money in Cadix and to send the elder Bonell to it. Accordingly, he was taken to Cadix, while the brigands, who seem to have been well treated and well fed, there, made sure of his secrecy and discretion by retaining his nephew in the mountain retreat, under threat to kill him instantly if there was any attempt to rescue them, or if he failed to return forthwith with the money. Mr. Bonell embarked in the passage steamer Ville de Paris for Gibraltar, one of the robbers actually standing among the crowd gathered at the pier at Cadix, to see her off, and coming up to him in a friendly manner, shaking his hand and saying, "So, Señor Bonell, I see you are taking a voyage to Gibraltar." At Gibraltar, Mr. Bonell, who, doubtless, was "watched" all the time, reported himself to the Governor, Sir Richard Airey, who asked him to advance him the sum required, \$27,000...

Sir Richard instantly assented, and with the gold in bags and Mr. Bonell on board... off for Cadix. Leaving the gold on board, he had no time in proceeding to the rendezvous where he was to meet the chief of the band to arrange the mode of payment. On this being done without detection depended the restoration of the nephew, for which Mr. Bonell had no other guarantee than the word of a brigand. The arrangement was carried out, and young Bonell, who in the meantime had been taken to Jerez, was brought to Cadix, where he staid, in company with one of the band, who was excessively kind and polite to him, and even solicited him to "come out and take a walk." It seems like a romance, but this account is true. The agent of the brigands duly visited the Consul and received the \$27,000 from the hands of Mr. Resde, the Consul...

On the 8th inst. the Civil Guards came up with the other four near La Hartzana, in the province of Seville. A desperate combat ensued, resulting in the killing of three of the brigands, and the escape of the fourth. One Civil Guard (there were only three of them) was dangerously wounded. They left behind them three horses and a part of their ammunition gold, but not quite 7000 out of 8,500!

Yours etc,
JOHN DILKE,
Ludgus,
Eitchingham,
Sussex.
June 11.

Food and famine

From Sir John Dilke

Sir, Your leading article of June 10 entitled "Food and famine", shows where Russian Communism has failed. You write that "we... have a world in which the only areas of endemic food insufficiency are the Soviet bloc, elements of the Middle East and South Saharan Africa".

Seventy years ago Britain and France tried desperately to force the passage of the Dardanelles so that their ally, Russia, could resume grain exports and arms imports. Since then we have seen the fearful famine in the Ukraine caused by the Bolsheviks.

These same Bolsheviks continue to keep Russia short of grain, and not only Russia but 10 European nations occupied by Russia. They even try to export famine by promoting Bolshevism further afield.

Stalin himself admitted that the liquidation of the kulaks was worse than the German invasion.

Yours etc,
JOHN DILKE,
Ludgus,
Eitchingham,
Sussex.
June 11.

Ethiopian famine

From Dr Andrew Porter

Sir, The sad realities of the Ethiopian/superpower collusion (feature, June 4) mean that millions of Tigray and Amhara peasants are likely to die of starvation through what amounts to a genocidal policy.

Despite pronouncements by the Dergue, much of Tigray and Eritrea is still controlled by the TPLF and EPLF: feeding centres set up in or adjacent to these territories are unlikely to reach the majority of the hungry, who will in any case be reluctant to go to them because of the risk of forced resettlement.

I recently returned from three months spent in a camp for Tigrayan refugees in Sudan. Many of these peasant farmers were planning to return shortly to replant, a cour-

ageous decision in view of the dangers involved. It is tragic to think that anyone, let alone the government of their country, could conduct a "scorched earth" policy against these tough and dignified people.

The United States has chosen the wrong option. By increasing cross border aid they could put much more pressure on the Dergue, and on their Russian allies. The argument that this might lead to the expulsion of aid agencies from Ethiopia is spurious. It is very unlikely that this threat would be carried out, since Ethiopia is so reliant on Western aid.

The British, American and European public, who have given so generously towards the victims of famine and war in Ethiopia, need to realise what cynical manoeuvrings are taking place in their name by the United States Administration.

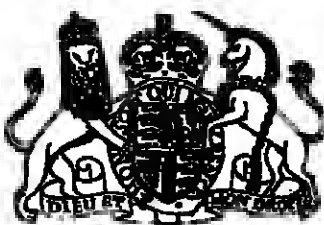
Yours faithfully,
ANDREW PORTER,
The William Harvey Hospital,
Kennington Road,
Willesborough, Kent.

Hope deferred

From Mr D. Price-Hughes

Sir, My wife answers the phone: Voice: "Can you tell me your address?" Wife: "Why?" Voice: "I have a telegram for you." Wife: "What does it say?" Voice: "I'm not allowed to tell you – it will be delivered by post." Wife: "When?" Voice: "I have no idea."

Yours etc,
D. PRICE-HUGHES,
Eldon,
West Hill,
Overy St Mary,
Devon.
June 12.



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
June 15: Her Majesty was present at the Queen's Birthday Parade on the Horse Guards Parade this morning. The Queen was accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh (Colonel, Grenadier Guards), the Grand Duke of Luxembourg (Colonel, Irish Guards), the Prince of Wales (Colonel, Welsh Guards) and Duke of Kent (Colonel, Scots Guards). Her Majesty was attended by General Sir Desmond Fitzpatrick (Colonel, The Blues and Royals), Major-General Sir George Burns (Colonel, Coldstream Guards), Major-General J. A. C. G. Byrne (Major-General Commanding the Household Division) and the Household Division Staff.

The Earl of Westmorland (Master of the Horse), Major-General Lord Michael Fitzalan-Howard (Colonel, The Life Guards), Gold Stick (Colonel, The Life Guards), Colonel Sir John Miller (Crown Equerry), Lieutenant-Colonel George J. G. Hamilton Russell, The Blues and Royals (Silver Stick in Waiting) were in attendance.

Colonel A. T. W. Duncan (Commanding, Grenadier Guards), Colonel J. M. Clavering (Commanding, Scots Guards), Colonel H. Baker (Commanding, Irish Guards) and the Silver Stick Adjutant and Regimental Adjutant of Foot Guards were present.

The Troops on Parade, under the command of Colonel H. M. C. Havergal, Coldstream Guards (Field Officer in Brigade Waiting), received the Queen with a Royal Salute.

Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother, The Princess of Wales, The Prince Edward, The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Princess Alice, Duchess of Gloucester, The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester, The Duchess of Kent, Prince and Princess Michael of Kent and other Members of the Royal Family drove to the Horse Guards Parade and witnessed the Queen's Birthday Parade.

The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg was also present.

On conclusion of the Parade, Her Majesty rode back to Buckingham Palace at the head of The Queen's Guard, preceded by the Mounted Bands of the Household Cavalry, Sovereign's Escort of the Household Cavalry under the command of Major N. J. D'Ambrusio, The Life Guards, and the Mounted Bands of the Guards Division.

On arrival at Buckingham Palace, The Queen's Guards entered the Forecourt and formed up opposite the Old Guard, the Grenadier Guards marching past Her Majesty. The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery and the Household Cavalry ranked past The Queen.

Her Majesty, from Buckingham Palace, witnessed a flypast by aircraft of the Royal Air Force Aerobatic Team "Red Arrows" led by Squadron Leader R. M. Thomas to mark the official celebration of The Queen's Birthday.

Royal Salutes were fired today by The King's Troop, Royal Horse Artillery in Hyde Park, under the command of Major Christopher

Tar, and from the Tower of London Saluting Battery by the Honourable Artillery Company, under the command of Major David Spooner.

The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, Patron of the Riding for the Disabled Association, this evening attended a Charity Preview of *Gipsy Dolly*, in aid of the Variety Club of Great Britain and the Riding for the Disabled Association, at the Prince of Wales Theatre, London, W1.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

June 16: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips, this afternoon attended the Silver Jubilee Celebrations of the Association of Combined Youth Clubs (President, Mr David Dumbleby) at Chapham Common, London, SW4.

Miss Victoria Legge-Bourke was in attendance.

By command of The Queen, the Earl of Caithness (Lord in Waiting) was present at Heathrow Airport.

London this morning upon the departure of The King and Queen of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and back to their Majesty's residence at the Palace of Amman, Jordan.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

In the afternoon The Duchess of Gloucester, Vice-Patron of The Queen's Club, presented the Single Trophy at the St. Andrews Lawn Tennis Championships.

Mrs Ellen McQuinn was in attendance.

THATCHED HOUSE LODGE
June 15: Princess Alexandra, Deputy Colonel-in-Chief, The Light Infantry, presented this afternoon at the Tercentenary celebrations of the Regiment in the City of Wells, Somerset.

Her Royal Highness travelled in an aircraft of The Queen's Flight.

Miss Mona Mitchell was in attendance.

A memorial service for Sir (Thomas) File Clark will be held at 11.00 on Saturday, June 20, at St. Andrew's Church, London, EC4.

A memorial service for Dawn Adams will be held at St. Paul's, Covent Garden, today at noon.

Birthdays today
Sir Derek Barber, 67; Mr Kingman Brewster, 66; Sir William Dale, 79; Sir Rolf Dudley-Williams, 79; Sir Alfred Marshall, 71; Major-General Sir Cecil Smith, 89; Mr Kenneth Leach, 49; the Very Rev Lord MacLeod of Fuinary, 90; Mr Barry Manilow, 39; Mr Stewart Perowne, 84; Miss Beryl Reid, 65; Sir Robert Wilson, 71; Major-General Sir Cecil Smith, 89; Mr Brian Staibum, 55; Lord Sudley, 46; Sir Malvina Thomas, 67; Professor Sir Alan Walters, 59.

Science report
According to Ceres, the Food and Agriculture Organization's review, more than 30 per cent of the 600 million tons of dung produced annually by India's 250 million cattle is burned as fuel in the form of dung cakes. This is equivalent, in nutrient terms, to a third of the total of chemical fertilizers produced in India. As gas, it could meet the fuel needs of 300 million rural people.

A study by the United Nations' International Institute of Management (IIM) calculates that 26,000 biogas plants could produce as much fertilizer as a single coal-based plant. They would cost only \$14 million to build, against \$140 million for the coal plant, and would generate 130 times more employment.

The income, moreover, would be spread over 26,000 villages, not concentrated in one town. India's biogas industry began in 1975. The faults of the programme, according to Ceres, are that the digester is a costly little structure, the gas is paid to looking after the plants once they were installed, and the state agencies responsible were in too great a hurry to get results.

The "rather sophisticated" Indian digester costs about 300 dollars, against 25 dollars for the Chinese plant. Only well-to-do farmers with at least five head of cattle can afford it.

Half the plants failed because of gas leakage caused by corrosion. Another common difficulty has been blockages of inlet and outlet pipes, impeding the mixing of the contents. Larger plants designed for a whole village have collapsed because of lack of dung and failure to find another feedstock.

Resistance was also encountered from the villagers. A report from the Indian Institute of Management blames this "in their anxiety to get the physical target completed" sought to operate by promising to run the plants free of charge. This could not be done.

One project run by the Centre for Application of Science and Technology in Rural Areas (ASTRA) has operated without a day's failure for five years. This is a village-size plant at Pura in Karnataka State, costing 7,500 dollars.

At Pura the gas is supplied free to the village's 76 households but the processed sludge is then returned to the families in the same proportion as they contribute dung. The message of Pura, says Ceres, is that such plants should be run as public utilities, not as businesses.

Source: Ceres, FAO Review on Agriculture and Development, No 183 (Vol 18 No 1).

Time to include Anglican fringe

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Playing the numbers game is generally deplored by churchmen, at least when numbers are falling. And while there is merit in the argument that "quality" matters at least as much as "quantity", the more likely reason for dismissing statistics is that they are threatening and frightening when they point to serious difficulties with no apparent way out.

There is evidence that the annual statistical returns in the Church of England are exaggerated. The average weekly church attendance is 1,200,000 as recorded in the official figures, but the true figure may well be somewhat less than a million. It is as if each clergyman with a small congregation cannot quite bear to admit just how tiny it is, so he rounds it up generously, thereby hoping to save his parish from the danger of redundancy or amalgamation for one more year.

(And there is no quicker way of rousing the Anglican clergyman to agitation than to compare the Church of England's figures with the parallel Roman Catholic Church's average weekly attendance of more than 1,600,000, which for opposite motives, the diocesan tax on parishes is per capita - is likely to be an understatement.)

The real problem is not necessarily small congregations nor falling total numbers. It is more to do with the Church of England's self-image as "the church of the English people", which is such a fundamental part of Anglican identity that to do without it could feel like annihilation.

Only the Methodist Church, of all the main churches, counts its fringe on the credit side. It maintains a role of "fellow-travellers", albeit without seeming to know quite what to do with them. In the Catholic Church fringe people have traditionally been called "lapsed Catholics", and they are counted on the debit side. The Church of England does not have room in its understanding of itself for any concept of a fringe, for it cannot be fitted into the sociology of "the church of the English people". That dictates that the fringe must be seen as the whole nation.

The existence and significance of this actual but more limited Anglican fringe is easily identified. Contrary to the normal approach of the Christian stewardship movement or so called planned-giving, some parishes have contacted those in the population who have strong Church of England sympathies and connections but who are not church-goers, in order to invite them to support the local church financially (the more traditional policy is to limit such appeals to church-goers).

The results are usually quite remarkable, with many "Anglican" non-church-goers quite ready to agree to make hefty weekly contributions. When it has the effect of strengthening their sense of commitment, and often they become regular worshippers.

Incomes have been trebled this way, and parishes rescued from certain death. But what is odd is the hostility sometimes directed at this approach, often by quite senior churchmen, who call it "sectarian". It contradicts their perception of the whole of English society as "the church". And that, no doubt, is why "playing the numbers game" is so distressing.

A church whose core of active members is growing is drawing from that outer group; one which is falling is losing to the outer group. The Anglican fringe is almost certainly four or five times as large as the weekly church attendance figures and may be even 10 times. The Roman Catholic Church in England appears to have developed a similar fringe over the past 20 years, of perhaps twice its active membership. But there is no comparison: measured by "fringe" size, the Anglican presence, and its significance for English culture, is far greater than the Catholic one, even without reference to their respective histories.

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Religion is rarely spread by direct conversion of those far outside it, or by conscious intellectual and spiritual choice. It is much more usually transmitted through family and social networks, and movement into or out of the church is more usually gradual than dramatic and sudden. The penumbra of the Church of England consists of all those whose parents were church-goers, who are former church-goers themselves, or are married to one, or who went to a school with a strong Anglican ethos.

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OBITUARY

MR PERCY FENDER Outstanding county cricket captain

Mr Percy Fender, former Surrey cricket captain and England all-rounder, died on June 15 in Exeter at the age of 92.

He was at his best in the 1920s when he brought his flair and individuality to the captaincy of Surrey for 11 consecutive seasons. He provided a final link at the game's highest level between such giants as Jessop and Barnes in the period before the First World War and the 1930s when in his last two matches he played against such rising stars as Edrich and Compton.

He created one of the game's more enduring records in 1920 when, playing for Surrey against Northants, he reached 100 in 35 minutes, a world record which was not equalled until 1983.

Percy George Henry Fender was born in the London suburb of Balham on August 10, 1892, and educated at St George's College, Addlestone, and St Paul's school. He appeared twice for Sussex, in 1910, his last year at school, and 1911, but with little success.

In 1912 he was given a more regular place and scored a brilliant 133 not out against Oxford University. A good start the following season secured him a place in the Gentlemen's team against the Players, and in 1914 he joined his native county, Surrey, and developed rapidly into a useful county all-rounder.

He joined the Royal Fusiliers in 1914, later served in the Royal Flying Corps, and when the Second World War broke out he enlisted in the Royal Air Force.

A broken leg kept him out of cricket in 1919 but he returned in 1920 to share the captaincy of Surrey with C. T. A. Wilkinson. Now a more mature leg-break bowler, an erratic but at times match-winning batsman, and a sure catch, he was included in J. W. H. T. Douglas's 1920-21 team to Australia.

He played in three Tests of the series, several times batted usefully and headed the English bowling averages though, in that well beaten side, his 12 wickets cost 34.16 runs apiece.

In 1921 he was appointed captain of Surrey, performed the double of a thousand-runs and a hundred wickets, and was picked for two Tests against Australia. He appeared for England on eight occasions, all against South Africa, five times in 1922-23, twice in 1924 and finally, rather unexpectedly, once in 1929.

Apart from taking five wickets in an innings at Melbourne and Sydney in 1921, he was never particularly successful in representative cricket. His main achievement was as captain of Surrey when on the perfect batting wickets at The Oval; he handled the county's limited bowling resources with surprising success.

His own bowling, probably suffered in the process, for although he was once called "the best change bowler in England", he had often to use himself as a stock bowler and indulged in experiments which would have been unnecessary in a stronger attack.

He was known to bowl an over of six full-tosses to an obdurate stone waller, to produce an unexpectedly sharp swinger, or beat a slow thinking batsman with a sudden faster ball.

Australian opinion considered that he did not spin enough to be dangerous on their wickets, but for many years he was one of the staidest bowlers of his type in England, subtle in flight and with artful variations.

He seven times took over a hundred wickets in a season, six times in 1921, five in 1922, four in 1923, three in 1924, two in 1925, and one in 1926.

He was born Countess Katinka (Catherine) Karolyi took her husband's pre-occupations seriously and championed his cause with singular tenacity and diplomatic skill, believing, as she did, in the French saying: *ce que femme veut Dieu le veut*.

During the war the Karolyis lived in London and she was a leading spirit in the anti-fascist Hungarian Movement. They returned to Hungary in 1946, only to go into exile again in 1949.

In the last years of her life the Countess Karolyi lived alternately in the south of France and Budapest where a modest part of the old family mansion was given back to her. As President of the Hungarian Society for the Protection of Animals she led an active life in her ripe old age and was at the centre of Budapest social life.

Her memoirs, *A Life Together* (1966), were first published in London and were followed by a Hungarian translation with omissions and alterations.



times performed the "double" and had a career record of 1,894 wickets, 19,034 runs (with 21 centuries) and 558 catches.

"Percy George" was a sharp captain, quick to observe the slightest opportunity of advantage and ready to gamble on his ability to exploit it. His keen eye for weakness in an opponent and ability to extract the best powers of his own players caused him often, and with reason, to be described as the best county captain who never captained England.

No more flexible thinker on cricket ever lived. He could be prickly with authority and occasionally crossed swords in committee. He did more than most amateurs of his time to try to lessen the gap between amateur and professional, occurring in the field through the same gate. His failure to conform to the strict patterns of the time has been put forward as a reason for his missing the captaincy of England.

As a batsman he was aggressive, a strong driver, even of good length bowling, who disconcerted many bowlers with his audacious pull-strokes and most spectacular hard-hit, square cut.

He played some exhilarating innings: against Hampshire in 1922 he scored 185 out of 294 in 130 minutes and, at one point, scored a sequence of 14 balls which he struck for 6, 4, 2, 4, 6, 3, 6, 3, 1, 4, 1, 4, 4; in a match with Kent he made 185 in 90 minutes; on this occasion he played a slash over cover point's head which cleared a boundary fence 120 yards away and went clear out of the Oval.

Of an innings of 91 against Leicestershire, 80 came in boundary hits.

Tall and dark haired with horn-rimmed spectacles, a heavy black moustache and a peculiar stooping carriage, Fender was rather like Groucho Marx in appearance and he affected long sweaters which Tom Webster seized on in a number of cartoons. In conversation he was somewhat circumlocutory, but never reluctant to argue his point of view, and he cherished his prejudices with resolute obstinacy.

Foster was an astute critic of the game and published some well-observed and analytical accounts of England-Australia Test series in *Defending the Ashes* (1920-21), *The Turn of the Wheel* (1928-29), *The Tests of 1930 and Kissing the Rod* (1934), *An A.B.C. of Cricket* is largely autobiographical. Before 1919 he played Association football as a goalkeeper for the Casuals, Corinthians and Fulham; for many years he conducted a wine and spirit business on markedly personal lines.

He was member for the Norwood division of Lambeth on the London County Council from 1952-58, and became a Freeman of the City of London in 1960. In recent years he lost his sight. He is survived by a son and a daughter, the children of the first of his two marriages.

He was known to bowl an over of six full-tosses to an obdurate stone waller, to produce an unexpectedly sharp swinger, or beat a slow thinking batsman with a sudden faster ball.

Australian opinion considered that he did not spin enough to be dangerous on their wickets, but for many years he was one of the staidest bowlers of his type in England, subtle in flight and with artful variations.

He seven times took over a hundred wickets in a season, six times in 1921, five in 1922, four in 1923, three in 1924, two in 1925, and one in 1926.

He was born Countess Katinka (Catherine) Karolyi took her husband's pre-occupations seriously and championed his cause with singular tenacity and diplomatic skill, believing, as she did, in the French saying: *ce que femme veut Dieu le veut*.

During the war the Karolyis lived in London and she was a leading spirit in the anti-fascist Hungarian Movement. They returned to Hungary in 1946, only to go into exile again in 1949.

In the last years of her life the Countess Karolyi lived alternately in the south of France and Budapest where a modest part of the old family mansion was given back to her. As President of the Hungarian Society for the Protection of Animals she led an active life in her ripe old age and was at the centre of Budapest social life.

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COUNTESS KATINKA KAROLYI

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During the war the

THE ARTS

Television
Emotional drain

Connie (Central) is an absolute mystery, at least for those who thought that the "rag trade" was something to do with fashion rather than Jacobean tragedy. But in this series it has become an excuse for acting which has not been seen since the more purple days of the silent cinema - from the heroine's often mentioned "looks", which suggest that Medusa herself has returned from the famous taverna in Athens to wreak havoc in Nottingham, to her strangled remarks of a dramatic but inexpressive nature. Connie, as a result, is unfathomable: she enters a room like a whirlwind and then glares at the walls she makes acid little remarks about nothing in particular, she suffers herself to be embraced with expressions which rival those of Mary Pickford being tied to a railway track.

Nothing actually happens, of course, but all of the characters seem perpetually drained by emotion: perhaps the world of provincial fashion is exhausting, and the sight of all those colourful little outfits must surely provoke despair even among Connie's relatives who behave as if the "House of Bea".

Peter Ackroyd

Dance

Flowers of the Forest
Hippodrome,
Birmingham

Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet promised one new work on Friday and went one better than that because David Bintley's *Flowers of the Forest* turns out to be two almost completely separate ballets, both based on Scottish tales. The music also is separate but related, in the case of Malcolm Arnold and Benjamin Britten both pay tribute to their different ways to Scottish melodies.

The first part is a rescaling (and so far as distasteful memory serves, a substantial reworking) of a piece which Bintley made six years ago for a group of Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet dancers to perform on a private enterprise tour during the holidays. Although made early in his choreographic career, the work shows nothing of the novice in its handling of Arnold's Four Scottish Dances and in the amusing picture-postcard view of Scottish life which it presents to them.

John Percival

PUBLISHING

Proof positive

One of the few pleasures of perusing the book-trade press each week is "Critics' Choice", a column in *The Bookseller* by the (presumably) pseudonymous Quentin Oates, who appraises the book reviewers. That is, he juxtaposes extracts from reviews in the national press of the books of the week and, by judicious quotation from contrasting reviews, pokes gentle fun at the whole process of assessment. Reviewers tend not to like it but why should reviewers not be reviewed? Why should not those who perform an essentially parasitical activity once in a while be found to have parasites living off them?

In his column in the *The Bookseller* dated June 1, Oates writes: "I hold no brief for publishers, least of all Cape, but I did feel that that house came in for a rather unfair bashing in *The Sunday Times*, and that on to castigate that paper for allowing a reviewer therein to blame the publishers rather than the author of the work under review, 'who have served her so badly as to allow her book to appear riddled with irritating typographical mistakes'."

Oates goes on to list some of the errors, such as "lessen" for "lessen", "moral" for "moral", and - most intriguingly - "6,000 million" for "600 million". The pseudonymous columnist concludes his schoolmasterly lecture: "But isn't an author meant to read the proofs...?" Let us for a moment forget the publisher, although it is surely reasonable to assume that Messrs Cape are concerned with the accuracy of the books they publish. Let us forget the *Sunday Times* reviewer. Let us, even, forget Mr Oates. There is a serious and fundamental question here, and it is a more important one than that raised in every third letter this column receives from readers: how do I get published?

The advantage of publishing in Britain today, with its ludicrous over-production of titles, is that virtually any script, non-fiction or fiction, which reveals the slightest promise will be snapped up and rendered into print by a publisher eager for turnover. The disadvantage is that publishers are releasing so many titles (57,000 last year, more than 1,000 each week) that they have neither the capacity nor the inclination to ensure that the books they publish - that is, have printed and may promote - are as shipshape as they should be to register in the market-place.

The cited book is written by an author experienced and distinguished in her field (by which I mean she ought to know what she is writing about), and Messrs Cape are properly regarded as one of our classic publishers. In any non-fiction title there are likely to be thousands of facts in addition to matters of judgement. Is it not reasonable, indeed essential, to assume that any self-respecting publisher will feel the necessity to check or have checked the veracity of these facts by an "expert" who, obviously, is someone other than the author - before the typescript goes to the printer?

The most accomplished and professional author can make the silliest of slips, and if it is not caught before the book is printed an unfriendly reviewer may pillory him for it. The oops, surely, has to be on the publisher to see that the error is corrected in the typescript. Publishers are quick to grab the credit when a book captures a prize or two, or simply sells well.

If the activity of publishing is a more sophisticated one than, basically, supplying books to those who wish to acquire them, publishers, their readers and printers' readers must - as they need to do - ensure that authors' texts are released upon the world in as accurate a form as possible. It should not be that the author alone feels suicidal if reviewers point out errors. Publishers delight in proclaiming that their activity is a partnership with authors. Let them therefore provide reason, as well as capital, for asserting that this is so.

It was Max Beerbohm who responded to an admirer who claimed to possess a number of his first editions that she would be doing better if, of most of them, she possessed subsequent editions. This was not the case with *Zuleika Dobson* which, since publication in 1911, has gone into many impressions, many editions. George Him and Osbert Lancaster (his 12 scenes for the Randolph Hotel) have both illustrated the quintessential Oxford novel.

The incomparable author wittily embellished his own copy of the published book with more than eighty skilful and lively watercolours. Yale University Press (during Eighties Week, of course) have just published a facsimile of Beerbohm's own treasured volume. The book is a treat and a bargain at £12.95.

E. J. Craddock

David Freeman, the controversial director of Opera Factory London, returns to the Coliseum tonight with the British premiere of *Akhnaten*, the first opera by Philip Glass to be staged in Britain: interview by Nicholas Kenyon

The search for a style of magical obsessiveness

David Freeman: "The problem is to eliminate many of the normal habits we have in interrelating"

How do you stage a minimalist opera about events in Egypt around 1375 BC? Philip Glass's *Akhnaten* is the third of his major theatre pieces based on important figures, neither *Eisenstein on the Beach* nor *Savoyrath* (about Gandhi) has been seen on stage in this country, so the director David Freeman has the formidable challenge of realizing for the first time here a kind of music theatre - hypnotic, non-narrative, dauntingly unvaried - which is totally unfamiliar except to that growing crowd of devotees of Glass's records.

"I would like the audience to feel they are going on a magical mystery tour. Not a magic lantern tour of lots of different images but the situation where you face a society that you don't recognize. So often on stage you try to make connections between the society you're presenting and the audience. In this case I'm deliberately trying not to, and the problem is to eliminate in the rehearsal period many of the normal habits we have in interrelating. It really needs much more time and a situation in which people aren't running off left, right and centre, doing four or five other operas in the repertoire at the same time."

Akhnaten has already received very different stagings. The Stuttgart premiere was highly visual in the performance-art fashion by Achim Freyer. Freeman's own first stagings in Houston and New York were very different, and he is scathing about the performance-art approach. "The images may be brilliant but they don't help the piece, they work against the music and against the contours. I think performance art is mostly boring; it's done by artists who are very good performers. I'm being harsh, but if the performance isn't good they say it's great art, but then usually the art isn't that great either."

So what alternative has Freeman to offer? A narrative approach? An historical approach? "The thing you have to come to terms with in Glass's music is the repetitiveness. This may seem obvious, but you can't say 'this is OK but I wish it didn't go on so much'. Or the reaction of some people in the classical tradition which is just to listen to ten minutes and then sit with their ears closed for the rest of the evening and decide it's a load of crap. The point of it is that it goes on so long. So where do you find a convention to make that work on stage? It's certainly something to do with obsessiveness, and that suits Egypt which was a very obsessive society. I think Glass has caught that too in the colours, no violins at all - without in the least coming up with pseudo-Egyptian music."

Is it useful to know any history at all? "Oh yes, absolutely, and the whole subject of *Akhnaten* is fascinating. He was forgotten for almost 3,000 years but has now become a cult figure far more is written about him than about his successor Tutankhamun. He tried to change the whole direction of Egyptian culture and was regarded as a heretic, but this century people have seen all sorts of different things in him: Freud thought he was the first Minotheist, Velikovsky thought he anticipated the whole Oedipus thing, others claim he was an hermaphrodite or else was his wife in disguise - there are lots of books written on him, 450 books, and articles in the last 25 years. Did you know Agatha Christie wrote a play about him? It's really dreadful, with Noel Coward dialogue. So what story you tell is very much up to grabs. But I've tried to make it concrete. You must identify with Akhnaten at some level, so you do care when he dies. People are the thing that counts. People are much more interesting than anything else. What else is there...?"

He has not felt it necessary to keep all the images that Glass specifies in the text? "No, composers sometimes specify images but they're not necessarily the best images for realizing the piece, even if they're good images, which sometimes they're not. Doing this piece is almost more like following a ballet scenario. When I depart from Glass's ideas I'm trying to find something that corresponds, but the actual movements may seem to contradict the music at times."

Should the audience expect to feel a distance from the stage? "Well, I hope it'll feel very immediate, but they won't understand it. Very, very, they must be mysterious but not mystifying. Will it look like a ritual? Is that one way into it? "Yes, there's a lot of ritual going on, but as in the Noh plays that's not to suppress emotion and feeling but to reveal it. Too often ritual becomes a sort of *Magic Flute* solemnity which is just awful, or else people dressing up in exotic clothes and then behaving normally, so that the result is a sort of Egyptian *Crossroads*."

Certainly in Freeman's other ENO production, Monteverdi's *Orfeo*, one had the feeling of a ritual that was desperately real... "What's the real? Spending six weeks practising moving around in a little box for a lot of people who come to pay and watch? And that should be real? No, the whole situation is artificial. On the other hand there's the reality of the event you are in, the feeling that the only thing that counts for that length of time is what's going on in the theatre. The trouble is that we have this great tradition of singing and acting which the audience recognizes and appreciates, and it's not relevant at all to most of what's being done in opera today."

So he must be dissatisfied with 85 per cent of the opera productions he sees? "Oh, a much higher percentage! The trouble is that now everyone's changing the window dressing in their opera productions, more contemporary art and contemporary concepts, usually imposed from outside, but behind that nothing's changed. Big opera companies now have two choices: they can become repositories of the past, the canon of operas from Mozart to Puccini, or they can go outside that, in which case they need to be much more flexible, to have smaller houses as well as large ones (when they built the National Theatre they didn't just build one theatrical space) and above all a quite new attitude to training and structure, how the singers spend their time."

"Just take one tiny example: the singer's expertise that always comes out in the line 'I was hired to sing'. That has to be reassessed in view of what people are doing in twentieth-century opera and why the audiences are coming to it in such vast numbers. All the people who come to see Glass operas aren't just teenyboppers. So you have movement classes, which are necessary. But it ought to be in the singers' contracts, not just an optional extra. I do feel many of the changes even here are cosmetic."

Opera
Definite distinctionArabella
Glyndebourne

Last year *Arabella* and Glyndebourne made each other's acquaintance, happily and graciously. This year, with a new cast and conductor, the relationship has been stimulated and has deepened. Last year, I remember noting John Cox's realization of that "easy-flowing, happy creative labour" which Hofmannsthal recognized as unique to this opera. This year, the aural and visual harmony of its production is enriched by the very cross-currents which threaten to disrupt it. Score and character, the one through the other, achieve new definition and distinction.

Felicity Lott is Arabella. Having made her debut with the Glyndebourne touring company as *Coprioco's* Countess, and with a Marshallin surely in the wings, this seems the right role, exactly, at the right time. There is from the start that flight of anticipation and wonder in her voice which we first hear in the violas; there is a highly-strung tension behind it which tastes the last act's anger in the first's apprehensions. And there is a huge amount of character within and through Strauss's melodic line which flowers in the radiance of her final forgiveness.

Half her thinking and feeling, of course, is done in the pit. Particularly at the end of Act I and in the Prelude to Act III, it is Andrew Davis and the London Philharmonic who reveal Strauss's score, in the vibrancy and pacing of its constituent parts as a match for Hofmannsthal's libretto. It does not always seem so. But Davis understands the opera's urgency and he provides his singers with not only sympathy but a spur. It was exciting to hear orchestral and vocal muscle flex simultaneously in Peter Weber's *Mandryka*. This was a memorable British debut: oow dismayingly, oow, explosively direct in declamation, his mahogany baritone is rich in vocal and emotional range. Things seemed at times a little overwhelming for the other



Felicity Lott: exactly the right role at exactly the right time

British debutante, Katalio Farkas from Budapest. On the first night it was difficult to forget how horribly testing is the role of a Zdenka. But the fresh transparency of her voice and its emotions, the quick nervous intensity generated between her and Jerome Pruet's distinctive Matteo, augur well.

There is hardly less energy of rapport between the Adelaide and Waldner, both making welcome Glyndebourne debuts. Elisabeth Glauser, with a chest voice like a splendid diocesan, brings more resonance to the character than is often expected of it. Less superficial, more dignified than her gaudy costume suggests, she is, indeed, not so very far removed from the aristocratic widow of Hofmannsthal's original short story. Ernst Gutstein as her husband, volatile with childlike despair or delight, flashes out his role with a most generous, perceptive humanity.

Hilary Finch

ECO/Groves
Barbican

Gala occasions can be worthy but wearisome entertainments, but this Lord Mountbatten Concert, celebrating the opening of a blood research laboratory at King's College, London, and raising funds for the Lions International Blood Research Appeal, was full of little surprises.

Andrei Gavrilov, for instance, played Bach. I suppose that if one chooses to perform the D minor Keyboard Concerto on a concert grand there is some virtue in ensuring that no one mistakes the instrument for a jumbo-sized spinet. Gavrilov, as the Russians say, certainly gives it some wellie. But, although the stately renaissance and thumping accents with which he caressed the outer movements imparted a certain macho-like impressiveness, his playing in the snakily chromatic adagio seemed merely graceless and too loud.

Listening to Sarah Brightman attempting Puccini and Gounod arias (to say nothing of William Shield's aptly-named "Light as Thislthudena") made me, rather to my surprise, almost keen to hear Andrew Lloyd Webber's "Pie Jesu" again. This was duly offered, complete with the treble Paul Miles-Kingston looking very warm in cassock and ruff. Miss Brightman's operatic extracts were generally in tune, she reached the high notes cleanly and even had a credible stab at the coloratura runs, but she displayed little tone above the stage and marked absence of dynamic variation or anything approaching clear enunciation made this a dull experience.

Elsewhere there were more satisfying things. Emma Johnson played the Cruller Clarinet Concerto (which she must know fairly well now) with her familiar mixture of insouciant, highly-pointed phrasing and warm, ingratiating timbre. The ECO strings, having dutifully accommodated the styles of three very different soloists, brought the concert to a close with a slightly loose but warmly delivered account of Elgar's Introduction and Allegro, under Sir Charles Groves's genial direction.

Richard Morrison

Concerts

LSO/Maazel
Barbican

Nothing seems beyond Lorin Maazel's technique. He conducts everything, including *The Rite of Spring*, from memory and in so doing demonstrates phenomenal concentration and a superbly communicative command of gesture. His self-confidence ("in this profession", he once said, "modesty is stupid"), and the streak of iron in his temperament, usually enable him to win players' approval the hard way: by insistence on their observing every marking in the score. Whether one warms to his precisely-calculated "effects" or not, one never doubts that he is achieving exactly what he wants.

Stravinsky's *Rite* has long been a Maazel showpiece, and this performance was predictably aggressive, gloriously noisy at times, and impressively secure in rhythm (due in part to the fine percussion section with the timpanist Kurt-Hans Gocke in rampant form). Some of the solo wind playing in exposed sections had more of a primitive, desperate quality than Stravinsky probably intended, but elsewhere the orchestra performed with rare intensity and determination.

Maazel's interpretation of Schubert's Ninth Symphony revealed its true nature gradually. The first movement, at least until its final, exorbitantly massive declamation of the opening theme, had been

almost classically free from idiosyncrasy. There was, for instance, no whipping up to tempo before the allegro, or sentimental slowing for the second subject.

As the work progressed, however, the "effects" grew more pronounced: an arbitrary spotlighting of a snatch of cello counter-tune in the Andante; a Viennese-style comma inserted into the scherzo's opening theme; most obviously, an extravagant wailing to make Mahlerian hammer-strokes out of the finale's climax. Paradoxically, what lingered most in the memory were passages where Maazel attempted nothing except a magically clear delineation of the score. The tolling horn passage ushering in the Andante's recapitulation can rarely have been handled with greater sensibility.

Richard Morrison

Conlon Nancarrow
Almeida Theatre

Remember Sparky's Magic Piano? Well, on May 11 it erupted with a mighty canon whose scale of 12 different tempos issued forth in the ratio 1/1, 15/14, 9/8, 6/5, 4/3, 7/5, 3/2, 8/5, 5/3, 7/4, 15/8. It sounded like a drunken crowd of tiny two-part inventions all stepping on each other's toes. It was, in fact, the 73-year-old Conlon Nancarrow's Study No. 37 for Player-Piano; and we heard it with five others, in the presence

of the composer himself. Not, alas, in a "live" performance: speakers were the mouthpieces of a tape, while two grand pianos crouched like somnre dinosaurs at their side.

Nancarrow has spent 35 years writing exclusively for player-piano. Why? Because he simply could not get performers equal to the complexity and precision of the rhythmic and temporal relationships he wanted to play with. The ears latch on to a boogie-woogie or the echo of a flamenco guitar as aural image, only to find it shattered by gashes of glissando or chords which fracture the music's strata (Nancarrow's word) like huge quake fissures.

The variety within extreme constraint is remarkable: the joy in space and conglomeration second only to the ecstasy of a Scarlatti or a Liszt. Lines and "linear aggregates" accelerate and decelerate simultaneously, or at rates which are minutely controlled yet gloriously anarchic in effect.

From a workshop which, in Eva Solter's prefatory slideshow, looked like a cobbler's atelier in a fairground, Nancarrow practices the exuberant fuo of his meticulous craft. One of his delights is that neither he nor his pieces make themselves out to be anything they are not. To say that the Studies are "redefining our ability to hear, or that Nancarrow is 'one of the finest composers in the world'" simply leaves Sparky with the last laugh.

Hilary Finch

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No.	Company	Price pence	Chge on Friday	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
1	IMI	64.00	+0.50	1.12	8.8	20.4
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10	Rankine House	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
11	Whitman	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
12	Taco	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
13	Wood (SW)	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
14	Valer	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
15	SI	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
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17	Tomkins (F&I)	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
18	Star Comp	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
19	Third Mill	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
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21	Don	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
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26	Christy Hm	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
27	Cope Allman	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
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33	Supermarket	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
34	Bar (AG)	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
35	Glass Glover	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
36	Burke & Dobson	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
37	Met Trade Supp	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
38	Park Foods	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
39	Alpine Drinks	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
40	Unigate	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0
41	Home Farm	1.00	+0.01	0.01	1.0	10.0

Weekly Dividend
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	Weekly Total

BRITISH FUNDS

Stock out- standing	Price pence	Chge on Friday	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
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SHORTS (Under Five Years)

Year	Price pence	Chge on Friday	Gross Div pence	Yld %	P/E
1985	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1984	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1983	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1982	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1981	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1980	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1979	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1978	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1977	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1976	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1975	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1974	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1973	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1972	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1971	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1970	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1969	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1968	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1967	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1966	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1965	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1964	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1963	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1962	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1961	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1960	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1959	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1958	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1957	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1956	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1955	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1954	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1953	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1952	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1951	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1950	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1949	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1948	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1947	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1946	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1945	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1944	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1943	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1942	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1941	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1940	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1939	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1938	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1937	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1936	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1935	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1934	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1933	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1932	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1931	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1930	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1929	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1928	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1927	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1926	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1925	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1924	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1923	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1922	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1921	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1920	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1919	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1918	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1917	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1916	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1915	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1914	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1913	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1912	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1911	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1910	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1909	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1908	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1907	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1906	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1905	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1904	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1903	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1902	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1901	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1900	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1985	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1984	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1983	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1982	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1981	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1980	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1979	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1978	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1977	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1976	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1975	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1974	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1973	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1972	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1971	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1970	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1969	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1968	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1967	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1966	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1965	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1964	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1963	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1962	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1961	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1960	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1959	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1958	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
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1946	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1945	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1944	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1943	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1942	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1941	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1940	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
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1938	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1937	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1936	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1935	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1934	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1933	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1932	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1931	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1930	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1929	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1928	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1927	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1926	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1925	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1924	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1923	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1922	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1921	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1920	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1919	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1918	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1917	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1916	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1915	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1914	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1913	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1912	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1911	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1910	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1909	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1908	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1907	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1906	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1905	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1904	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1903	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1902	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1901	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1900	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1899	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1898	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1897	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1896	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1895	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1894	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1893	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1892	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1891	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1890	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1889	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1888	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1887	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1886	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1885	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1884	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1883	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1882	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1881	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1880	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1879	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1878	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1877	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1876	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1875	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1874	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1873	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1872	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1871	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1870	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1869	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1868	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1867	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1866	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1865	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1864	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1863	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1862	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1861	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1860	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1859	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1858	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1857	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1856	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1855	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1854	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1853	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1852	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1851	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1850	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1849	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1848	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1847	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1846	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1845	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1844	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1843	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1842	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1841	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1840	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1839	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1838	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1837	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1836	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1835	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1834	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1833	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1832	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1831	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1830	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1829	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1828	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1827	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1826	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1825	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1824	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1823	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1822	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1821	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1820	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1819	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1818	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1817	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1816	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1815	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1814	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1813	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1812	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1811	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1810	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1809	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1808	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1807	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1806	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1805	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1804	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1803	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1802	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1801	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1800	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1799	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1798	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1797	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1796	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1795	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1794	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1793	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1792	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1791	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1790	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1789	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1788	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1787	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1786	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1785	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1784	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1783	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1782	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1781	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1780	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1779	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1778	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1777	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1776	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1775	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1774	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1773	11.50	+0.10	0.10	1.0	10.0
1772	11.50	+0.10</			

THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

The exchange rate system needs a Euro-currency

It might seem strange that Nigel Lawson, not much of an economic diplomat, should be taking his allotted place at the group of 10 meeting in Tokyo this coming week rather than seizing the excuse of next Sunday's Cabinet spending marathon to bow out. For all this meeting of finance ministers has to do is endorse the report on the international monetary system prepared by 'deputies' - jargon for top national officials - which has been circulating since before the Bonn economic summit.

It is, however, an occasion of some consequence. For it is the first time since the post-war fixed exchange rate system broke up that the main participants have been obliged to put their signature to a set of conclusions obliged to put their signature to a set of conclusions as to how the system is actually working.

Like almost all number codes for the clubs of governments in the game of supranational economics, the Group of 10 is inaccurate, because it now embraces 11 leading industrial market economies. Since it does not (like the full International Monetary Fund or the World Bank) include developing countries, its report will deal very discreetly with the future of these institutions. (It is, however, likely to make plain the industrial world's veto on a boost to international liquidity through a further of IMF Special Drawing Rights, and should signal a refusal to increase the World Bank's capital until the bank can make a better case.) But the Group of 10 is the right body to talk about the exchange-rate system, since it includes most countries whose currencies really matter.

The Group of 10 ranges from those who don't care about the system (the United States, with the shining exception of its central banker) through those don't want to care (Japan) and those who don't think much can be done (Britain), to interventionists (West Germany) and the architects of new systems (France). So the report will inevitably read like a pretty pallid endorsement of the existing system, with a polite glance at French schemes for "target bands" for currencies and a suggestion that the IMF might dashingly publish its reports on national economic policies in order to increase its leverage on those governments fouling things up for the rest of us.

Well, we all know who that is aimed at. It is a long-standing gripe against the IMF that it can tell off smaller debtor nations, but has no influence over those countries which do not need to borrow from it, in which category the United States occupies a class of its own. This is a fundamental defect in the pretence that the IMF could continue to manage the exchange-rate system in a floating world. It is still a pretty pointless cry of "not fair", because that is the way of the dollar-based world.

Deputies preparing the Group of 10 report argue that publication of reports might at least ensure they reached those in government for whom they were intended - that the US Treasury Secretary does not always see the relevant IMF criticisms. However, it is fairly naive to suppose that the publication of a critical IMF report would bring a blush to President Reagan's cheek, or even to James Baker's, it would be more likely to lead to a further withdrawal of American support from the international financial institutions.

Despite such apparent concentration on technical trivia, this Group of 10 exercise (which has been going on at a somewhat leisurely pace since the Williamsburg economic summit of 1983) has concentrated government minds on the exchange rate system with which they have lived for more than a decade. The conclusion would seem to be that it has not worked badly, to begin with, but that it is beginning to work rather worse.

The essential advantage of moving to floating was that it provided a roughly self-righting system for the control of a common form of economic failure. A country which became uncompetitive saw its trade balance worsen, sooner or later that would knock its exchange rate, thus forcing adjustment in living standards but also providing a new platform from which to compete and so reducing the temptation to resort to protectionism.

There were countless examples of such adjustments in the 1970s, leading to the conclusion that floating rates have not damaged the world economy but rather provided a safety valve in the best possible way. For those who stand in loss from sudden exchange rate movements have at their disposal a whole variety of hedging techniques, if the pressures ventilated through currency markets were suppressed, they would burst out in other, less sophisticated markets and do more damage.

This argument remains true, but in the 1980s it has been overlaid by new worries. If exchange rates are not much influenced by trade patterns, but rather by capital movements, the system can increase rather than reduce the risk of protectionism while at the same time raising the international level of interest rates. America's vast trade deficit has so far had singularly little impact on the dollar, which means Americans are seeking to reduce it by raising import barriers rather than recapturing markets. Nervousness about the wayward dollar increases the pressure on other governments to keep interest rates up, and in turn likely to increase upward pressure on US rates at the hint of a dollar crash. Both interest rates and protectionism are sticky, going up more easily than they come down, both now threaten to make a serious impact on world economic growth.

Again, part of the problem can be traced back to dollar dominance - but we could tackle this problem at its root. It is by now patently clear that the IMF's artificial reserve currency, the SDR, is never going to rival the dollar - and that the yen can only be dragged slowly into international prominence. There are equally clear signs that a European currency could be popular and powerful - yet Europe will not act.

It is not just that Britain stays outside the European Monetary System. In effect, this Government pays far closer attention to its European exchange rate than to its increasingly muddled domestic monetary targets, whatever it pretends - and the pound does form part of the European Currency Unit (ECU), while the government participates in the fund underpinning the system. It is at least equally significant that Germany, its natural leader, blocks the development of the ECU as a commercial currency, and thus as a serious alternative to the dollar.

Of course, a bipolar world currency system would not naturally lead to more stable exchange rates. As an analysis published today by the stockbroker, Phillips & Drew, demonstrates, exchange rate swings between dollar and mark (the nearest thing to a second-best dollar) have been frequent and violent. But an ECU alternative would damp down some of the awkward national influences on European currencies cast in the role of dollar alternatives (oil on the pound, East-West tensions on the mark). It would also rebalance the world economy by giving America and Europe more equal policy opportunities. At present we are too fond of saying that the dollar confers on the United States advantages not available to Europe. For that, we have ourselves a good deal to blame.

Sarah Hogg
Economics Editor

COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF

CARPETS INTERNATIONAL (FELTEX) has acquired the 40 per cent interest in the Carpet Corporation of Australia held by Carpets International in exchange for 3.95 million shares in Feltext (about 5 per cent of the share in issue and currently valued at nearly £4 million).

DOWDING AND MILLS Terms have been agreed for Dowding to acquire a majority interest in Gash Holdings B.V., a private group, based in the Netherlands, for about £469,000. The price is to be satisfied by the issue of 689,051 new ordinary shares.

ALPINE SOFT DRINKS

Year to March 30. Final dividend 1.20p (1.2p), making 1.8p (1.8p). Figures in £000. Turnover 15,114 (17,037). Pre-tax loss 272 (799) loss.

More company news is on page 19

ORDINARY SHARES

RTZ presses on with drive into industry

By William Kay
City Editor

While the stock market retains a buoyancy that sometimes surprises its most ardent supporters, some notable companies qualify for a special exclusion zone, away from the general euphoria.

Among these is Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation, whose shares are suffering from their traditional summer doldrums, taking the price down to a year's low of 575p in the past few days. Yet the 1984 profits, announced in April, showed an increase from £57.2 million to £67.0 million, meeting most analysts' expectations. The prospects are for another useful increase in the current year.

Part of the answer to the conundrum lies in the perceived link between RTZ and the metals cycle. RTZ shares are seen as a convenient way to take a position on metal prices that have been slow to respond to the world economic recovery. There are growing fears that time is fast running out for metals to boom before the next downturn begins.

However, this ignores the

recent strategic changes within RTZ, changes which are being pressed forward with renewed vigour in the wake of Sir Alistair Fane's enthronement as chairman in March, and the accompanying elevation of Derek Birkin to chief executive. It follows a four-year interregnum under Sir Anthony Tuke, the former head of Barclays Bank who was drafted in at short notice after the sudden death of Sir Mark Turner.

Sir Alistair and Mr Birkin have struck up a close working relationship since Mr Birkin joined the group through the acquisition of Tunnel Holdings in 1982. Both are blunt-speaking men who make no bones about their ambitions for RTZ. While mining will continue to be the group's core business for the foreseeable future, the leading duo want it to be regarded increasingly as a diversified industrial company. Such a change of perception would do no harm to RTZ's share price, which suffers the relatively humble rating of a mining finance house.

This shift of emphasis has been imposed on the group to some extent by circumstance.

Sir Alistair said in his first annual statement last month: "The mining industry's basic problem has been that substantial capacity was installed in the 1970s in the confident expectation of a rate of growth of demand that never materialized. An increasingly important contribution to total supplies of metals is being made by scrap and recycled material of all types, and some mothballed mines will start up once more as demand rises. Nonetheless, investment in sizeable new production facilities has been reduced to a trickle."

While metals supply and demand should be back in balance within the next seven or eight years, RTZ must look elsewhere to grow and invest. For a company which generated £1 billion of cash in 1984, that is no easy task.

One obvious target for such a resource-based group is the oil and gas industry. The company has interests in seven North Sea fields and is about to start pumping its first gas ashore. Last year RTZ made a spectacular attempt to pre-empt the privatization of Enterprise Oil

by applying for 49 per cent of the shares, offer, but was thwarted by the last-minute change in the rules and had to be content with a 29 per cent holding.

Sir Alistair accepts that stake either has to be sold or used as a platform for a renewed bid when the Government's embargo on a takeover is lifted on New Year's Day, 1989. The course he chooses will depend on the conditions prevailing nearer the time.

But a bid for the other 71 per cent of Enterprise would cost only £258 million at its present market price. By 1989, RTZ will be having to cope with the pleasant problem of a growing flow of income from oil and gas. It is clear that something bigger will be required to sate the appetite for expansion.

RTZ belongs to that elite but growing group of companies that are too big to make sufficiently large takeovers to make any strategic impact. This applies in the case of businesses with non-competing diversifications. So it is clear that Sir Alistair must look overseas for anything other than a tidying-up exercise.

Strong American players in today's new gilt-edged team

By Jeremy Warner

The list of financial institutions selected to become primary dealers in the restructured gilt market which the Bank of England is planning to introduce next year, is published today. It appears amid growing fears that excessive competition in the new market will make it difficult to earn an adequate return on capital.

These fears are underlined by the surprise decision of Drexel Burnham Lambert, a leading New York investment bank and one of the most experienced and innovative dealers in international bond markets, to withdraw its application to be a primary dealer because it could not see any possibility of making a profit out of the market for several years.

Drexel was one of 11 US banking and financial groups given preliminary approval by the Bank to become a primary dealer in a market which will operate along American lines. The firm had been planning to commit as much as £20 million of capital to its gilt trading operation.

Other US organizations to have been approved include Bankers Trust, Goldman Sachs, Merrill Lynch, Salomon Brothers and Morgan Guaranty Trust. In addition other American banks have been admitted indirectly through the British stockholding and jobbing firms that they are in the process of acquiring.

The Bank of England said two weeks ago that 31 financial institutions were seeking to become primary dealers in the

restructured gilt market and that between them they had indicated they would be putting up around £700 million.

The applicants also provided the Bank with their individual targets for market share, which in total added up to more than twice the size of the available market, prompting fears of highly competitive conditions. Further withdrawals from the list of approved candidates before the new market finally gets under way in October next year are possible.

Primary dealers in the restructured market will receive favourable tax treatment as well as the privilege of a direct gilt dealing relationship with the Bank of England in return for providing a continuous market in gilt-edged stock.

In the United States there are

37 such dealers but the size of the Treasury bond market there is many times greater than the British gilt market.

Drexel, which is one of the American primary dealers, explored the possibility of a separately capitalized gilt venture with Quilter Goodison before finally giving up the idea of involvement in the British market. But the Quilter talks were terminated recently.

The Bank of England has yet to ask for candidates for the other main parts of the new market. Those are inter-dealer brokers, who will operate electronic networks, and money brokers, who will allow the primary dealers to borrow stock and money.

● The struggle between the Bank of England and the Treasury-Tempus page 19

Recession difficult for Fed to avoid

From Maxwell Newton
New York

The bond rally that began last June is still in force. Last week saw the Treasury bond June contract approach its early 1983 record of 80. Friday's close for the June contract was 79 1/2 and the cash "bell-wether", Treasury 11 1/2 of 2015, fell to a yield of 10.29 per cent. The bond rally reflects the conviction in the financial markets that the economy is weak and will become weaker.

By the end of the week, 90-day Treasury bills had dropped to 6.72 per cent yield and federal funds were trading down to 7.25 per cent. The collapse of short-term yields has encouraged the belief that there will have to be a cut in the prime rate to 9.5 per cent or even 9 per cent very soon. The markets are also waiting for a cut in the discount rate to 7 per cent, as an indication of the Federal Reserve Board's own concern with the rate of economic growth.

The Fed is under considerable pressure from the Administration to ensure that this slowdown in economic growth does not translate into a 1985-1986 recession, but it is hard to see how it can avoid such an outcome as this recovery is now 30 months old and getting on towards senility.

Since early March 90-day T-bill yields have fallen 21 per cent but the dollar, as measured by the June Deutsche-mark contract, has fallen only 10 per cent. Since early April it has not fallen at all, a subject of great concern both to the Fed and to the Administration.

Industrial production has not changed significantly since June last year and there is intense pressure on the Government to "do something" about the flood of imports.

The Fed is pushing a high rate of money growth since October last year money M1 has grown at an annual rate in excess of 10 per cent. However, there is no evidence yet that this extraordinary boom in money growth has weakened the dollar or stimulated the economy.

Despite the frantic expansion of the money stock, commodities, including the precious metals, are not responding. Gold is stuck around \$320 for the August futures contract and the index of commodities futures is still as low as it was in the bottom of the 1982 recession, the recent five-year low. It seems that Americans are concerned to keep their cash. They have been on a huge borrowing binge in the last 18 months, when they boosted consumer instalment debt by an amount equal to the total increase in the 6 1/2 years ended December 1983. Some analysts believe the deflationary trend is so ingrained that it will eventually lead to a wild rush to gold.

City to advise China on loans

By John Lawless

A 20-strong team of the City's most senior executives will visit Peking next month to advise the Chinese on how they can save money on international deals.

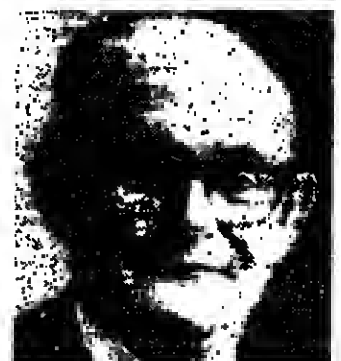
China is expected to move into large-scale foreign borrowings for the first time next year. The British advisers will place emphasis on the most economical use of funding multi-billion pound development plans.

Mr Nicholas Wolfrum, a director of Samuel Montagu, said one aim will be to show how to judge the "real risks and real costs", which can be hidden in financial packages.

"It is very likely that, for resources development projects, there will be some very large loans, for example in the field of energy," he said. "If they do discover commercial quantities of oil, gas, coal, etc., there are financial techniques which have been developed in Britain because of the North Sea, which can be used."

Off-balance sheet, or non-recourse financial techniques allow the servicing of development costs to be partly offset against the cashflow produced by oil sales, he explained.

Mr Wolfrum said that the

Sir Kenneth Berrill
Visiting Peking

Chinese sometimes move ahead on a project without sufficient planning and consultants on the mission will explain how they can best assess competing bids. "We can offer many more innovative things than the US", he said.

However, British lawyers on the mission - to be headed by Lord Linerick, Kleinwort Benson's vice-chairman, as chairman of the British Invisible Exports Council (BIEC) - will face strongly established American competition.

Extensive provision of advice by American lawyers, at a time when China has been formulating

hundreds of new commercial laws, had resulted in numerous contracts going to other business sectors in the United States, Mr Wolfrum said.

The BIEC's only previous mission to China was in 1980. Next month's visit will include Sir Kenneth Berrill, chairman designate of the new Securities and Investment Board, and financial management specialists on subjects ranging from counter-trade and tourism to commodities and technology transfer.

It could not come at a more opportune time. China has this year been counting the cost, in terms of foreign exchange leakage, of its domestic financial management. Some of its most senior bankers have recently been replaced.

Mr Wolfrum stressed that, while the City of London already does business in China, the opportunities are now tremendous. He said: "China has already opened up significantly, but the UK's share of exports is much lower than its share of world trade. It would be perfectly feasible to see trade trebling or quadrupling over the next few years - and that would offer a great many opportunities to invisibles."

Poor US figures deliver blow to GNP hopes

By David Smith, Economics Correspondent

Second quarter Gross National Product figures for the United States, the flash estimate of which will be published on Thursday, provides the key focus for financial markets this week.

After the first quarter slowdown in GNP to 0.7 per cent annualized growth, the expectation is for a better second quarter performance, with the flash figure expected to show a 2-3 per cent rise, according to market estimates.

A recent run of poor US economic data, including declines in retail sales and industrial production, however, has prompted fears that the rise will be below this.

A weak second quarter performance will be interpreted as bad for the dollar, which was

showing signs of nerves last week. It would also add to pressure on the Federal Reserve Board to cut its discount rate from 7.5 per cent, to 7 per cent.

This would open the way for reductions in British base rates. Although the Government has been happy to see the pound's substantial recovery against the dollar and other currencies since the January sterling crisis, it is prepared to see interest rates in Britain come down further if the pound remains firm.

The US Administration has given a warning that the second quarter performance of the economy will not be strong. However, it has also predicted a significant bounce-back later in the year.

National Savings fall by £40m

National Savings made a net contribution to government funding in May of £227.6 million, a drop of more than £40 million over April.

The biggest contribution came from sales of savings certificates worth £98.9 million and income bonds amounting to £76.2 million. Investment accounts brought in £49 million net while the net outflow from index-linked "granary" bonds fell from £18.5 million in April to £3.9 million last month. Interest on existing National Savings investments contributed a further £201.5 million to the gross total.

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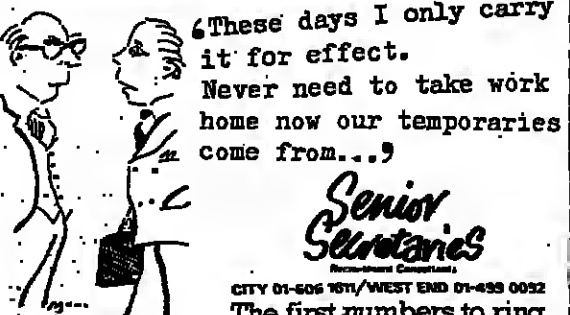
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BIRTHS
BROOKS - On June 13th 1985, in Ipswich, to Tanya and Charles, a daughter, Tanya Louise.
ERKINE - On June 13th 1985, in Ipswich, to David and Margaret, a son, David James.
HARRIS - On June 13th 1985, in Ipswich, to David and Margaret, a son, David James.
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IN MEMORIAM
MURDER - In treasured memory of Richard, our dear son, who died on June 13th 1985, aged 18 years. He was a bright and cheerful young man, who was loved by all who knew him. He is missed by his mother, father, and sister. Funeral service on June 20th 1985, at 11.00 am, at St. Paul's Church, Ipswich. Burial in the family grave. Flowers by family and friends.

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★ JAKART ★ NAIROBI ★ HARARE ★ DALLAS ★
★ BANGKOK ★ KUALA LUMPUR ★ SINGAPORE ★ TOKYO ★
★ JAKARTA ★ HONG KONG ★ OSAKA ★ SEOUL ★
★ COLOMBO ★ MANILA ★ DUBAI ★ BAHRAIN ★ JEDDAH ★
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CYPRUS, £129.00
GREECE, £129.00
TURKEY, £129.00
ITALY, £129.00
SPAIN, £129.00
FRANCE, £129.00
GERMANY, £129.00
NETHERLANDS, £129.00
BELGIUM, £129.00
LUXEMBOURG, £129.00
AUSTRIA, £129.00
SWITZERLAND, £129.00
CZECH REPUBLIC, £129.00
SLOVAKIA, £129.00
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Private 01-837 3333 or 3311

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